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CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Israelyan Calls for Chemical Weapons Moratorium AA 1
PRAVDA Views NATO 'Response' to Arms Proposals AA 1
[Nikolayev, 17 Dec]
Chervov Describes 'Destabilizing Nature' of SDI AA 3
[Bratislava PRAVDA 11 Dec]
U.S. Violation of SALT II Poses 'Danger' AA 6
[Chernyshev]

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

PRAVDA's Afanasyev Argues Need for Coexistence CC 1
[PRAVDA 5 Dec]
Foreign Ministry's Pyadyshev Briefs Journalists CC 6
Assesses NATO Session CC 6
Gorbachev Japan Trip Postponed CC 6
Telebridge Accord With U.S. CC 7
Jamming of Western Broadcasts Said Ending in Jan CC 7
[Stockholm]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Further Reportage on Visit of Senator Hart A 1
Meets Dobrynin 15 Dec A 1
Received by Shevardnadze A 1
Hart Interviewed on SDI A 2
U.S. Press Probes Reagan, Regan Role in 'Irangate' A 3
[Alekseyev]
Resigning NSC Staffers Part of Carlucci 'Purge' A 4
[Ignatyev]
IZVESTIYA Sues U.S. Citizen For 'Defamation' A 4

NORTHEAST ASIA

ROK 'Slander' Against DPRK Dam Project Viewed C 1
[Lupin in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 9 Dec]
Japan's Kuranari Meets Shultz, NATO Officials C 1
[Ovchinnikov in PRAVDA 14 Dec]
Briefs: DPRK Light Industry Pact C 2

SOUTH ASIA

Najibullah Informs PDPA Leadership on Visit D 1
Afghan Media Cited on Najibullah Visit D 1
[Okulov in PRAVDA 15 Dec]

Air Defense Chief Koldunov Leaves for India D 2
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 16 Dec]
Briefs: Indian Ferrous Metallurgy
Indian Nonferrous Metallurgy D 2

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Government Statement on Rarotonga Treaty E 1
[PRAVDA 16 Dec]
Shevardnadze Sends Message to S. Pacific Forum E 2
[PRAVDA 16 Dec]
Ligachev Addresses Vietnamese Party Congress E 4
Ligachev Meets With Cambodia's Heng Samrin E 9

EASTERN EUROPE

Further Reportage on 12 Dec Berlin Air Crash F 1
Leadership Condoles GDR F 1
GDR Offers Condolences F 1
[PRAVDA 15 Dec]
Hungary's Lazar To Visit in Late December F 1
Further Reportage on Visit of SFRY's Renovica F 1
'New Big Stride' Made F 1
[Polegayev]
Renovica Satisfied With Visit F 2

WESTERN EUROPE

Naval Detachment Visit to Greece Assessed G 1
[Bystrov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 13 Dec]
Ryzhkov To Visit Finland 'First Half of January' G 2

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Further Reportage on Visit of Libya's Mansur H 1
Talks With Gromyko H 1
Departs 16 Dec H 2
Iranian Criticism of Mass Media 'Surprising' H 3

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

New Kazakhstan CP First Secretary Profiled R 1
Ukrainian CP CC Holds Plenum 8 December R 1
[PRAVDA UKRAINY 9 Dec]
Razumovskiy Reads CPSU Greetings to Veterans R 2
Vorotnikov Attends Soiree Honoring Choir R 2
Belorussian Prices Committee Chairman Appointed R 3
[ZVYAZDA 6 Dec]
Black Sea Disaster Results in Party Reprimands R 3
[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 27 Nov]
News Briefing Held on Chernobyl Cleanup R 4
[Baklanov in IZVESTIYA 16 Dec]
Anti-Epidemic Precautions in Pripyat Detailed R 6
[Vilenskiy in PRAVDA UKRAINY 11 Dec]
Officials Discuss State Acceptance Service R 6

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

PRAVDA Assesses Jan-Nov Industrial Performance [15 Dec] S 1
TASS Explains New Foreign Trade Regulations [Bubnov] S 2
Abuse of Quality Price Supplements Hit [EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 50, Dec] S 3
IZVESTIYA Discusses Consumer Goods Pricing [Berger, 13 Dec] S 5

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Central Committee Resolution on Agriculture T 1
CSA Cited on Jan-Nov Agricultural Performance [PRAVDA 15 Dec] T 1

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmos-1807 Launched 16 Dec, 'Operating Normally' U 1
Scientists Hold Moscow Meeting on Phobos Project U 1
Resolution Adopted on Technology Training U 2
Briefs: Laser Mineral Exploration U 2

ISRAELYAN CALLS FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS MORATORIUM

LD161712 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Geneva December 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev writes:

The head of the Soviet delegation at the Disarmament Conference Viktor Israelyan has said that there is hope for the conclusion of a convention banning chemical weapons already in 1987, given all the participants in the talks display the necessary political will and interest.

Speaking at a press conference today before the conclusion of a regular round of the multilateral talks on the prohibition of chemical weapons within the framework of the Disarmament Conference, he stressed that this question is now acquiring special importance. Firstly, after the meeting in Reykjavik has demonstrated the possibility of creating a nuclear-free world it is now important to generate an impetus in other fields of disarmament as well, Israelyan said.

Secondly, he went on, it is necessary to avert a new spiral in the chemical weapons race in connection with the decision of the United States to start late next year the production of a new generation of chemical weapons -- binary ones. Otherwise the conclusion of the convention will be put off for many years, if not forever, Israelyan said further. Causing concern are also recent reports from France about its plans to start implementing a programme of chemical weapons of its own.

On the other hand, the Soviet representative stated, talks on abandoning chemical weapons have reached such a stage when a convention on this matter could be worked out already at the next session of the Disarmament Conference.

Viktor Israelyan characterised the Soviet Union's constructive approach to this question and the latest Soviet proposals concerning monitoring the non-production of chemical weapons in commercial industry and the system of verification.

With the aim of making the talks easier the Soviet side took for the basis the earlier made British proposal concerning verification on request. At the same time it proposed to the United States to announce a joint moratorium on the production and deployment of chemical weapons, including binary ones. This proposal should be acceptable to the United States, he said further, because according to contentions by American representatives the United States is not manufacturing such weapons at present.

The head of the Soviet delegation called on the partners in the talks to step up work so as not to miss the unique chance to exclude for ever yet another terrible weapon of mass annihilation from military arsenals.

PRAVDA VIEWS NATO 'RESPONSE' TO ARMS PROPOSALS

PM161738 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Ye. Nikolayev article: "A Response, or an Evasion?"]

[Text] Another NATO Council session ended the other day. And although it was a routine session, the results were awaited not without interest by the whole of political Europe. [paragraph continues]

At last, after 6 months of all kinds of studies and examinations, the North Atlantic bloc was to give a response -- at least, so it was promised -- to the Warsaw Pact countries' concrete proposals on limiting armed forces and armaments in Europe, put forward in June of this year. This delay in replying might have been justified to some extent if it had been due to the interests of the cause: The Warsaw Pact countries' proposals are a major initiative-making provision for substantial, precisely scheduled reductions of ground forces and tactical strike aircraft on the European continent, as well as reductions in operational-tactical nuclear arms. Such serious proposals naturally required a serious response.

But now the so-called response is ready. Verbose, widely publicized documents are adopted. And what do we see? The unsophisticated might even form the impression, from the declaration and communique adopted by the NATO Council, that their mood is businesslike. There is a mention of the need for a broad approach to conventional arms from the Atlantic to the Urals. It appears that some of the Warsaw Pact countries' ideas on this score have been taken up, too. But if you look more carefully it becomes obvious that the NATO documents do not propose any solutions. Moreover, not only do they lack concrete responses to the questions of where, when, and how to conduct talks on reducing armed forces and conventional arms from the Atlantic to the Urals, but there is not even any mention of the proposals contained in the Budapest appeal of the Warsaw Pact countries.

Hypocrisy, unfounded assertions, and gulfs between words and deeds have long been the usual tactics used by Western states to avoid responding to any concrete, businesslike proposals from the socialist countries on lessening military confrontation and on disarmament in Europe. The results of the NATO Council session are only one example of this approach by the North Atlantic bloc to the most acute problems of the European continent's life.

In this light there is nothing surprising about the fact of a 6-month delay in issuing documents which are not about disarmament, but about some abstract philosophy of "conventional arms control," or about the fact that they are planning to prolong such verbal exercises almost endlessly, envisaging putting the preparation of documents of this kind onto a regular footing in the future.

The reluctance to begin concrete talks on this problem is also indicated by the NATO countries' refusal to establish direct contacts between corresponding working groups of NATO and the Warsaw Pact concerned with this question, by the reluctance of General B. Rogers, commander in chief of the North Atlantic bloc's forces, to respond to our proposal and meet with Marshal V.G. Kulikov, commander of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces, and by the refusal of NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington to hold the proposed discussions with Warsaw Pact plenipotentiary representative G. Krolikowski.

Much was said in the NATO countries about the "Soviet military threat" in the sphere of conventional armed forces and about the impossibility of nuclear disarmament in the conditions of the preservation of high potentials in the conventional arms sphere. However, when it came to the point of discussing and adopting concrete measures to reduce conventional arms, it turned out that the West's interest in reducing them receded.

The philosophy of so-called conventional arms control set forth in the documents of the NATO Council session also looks odd. The impression created is that just in case talks really do start on this score, the NATO states would like to "prepare the ground" now, in the form of all kinds of barriers and obstacles which could be used to thwart the adoption of any concrete decisions at the talks.

It emerges from the NATO documents that the North Atlantic bloc sees it as the main objective to eliminate the supposed lack of equilibrium in conventional arms in Europe, and basically to bring about a unilateral reduction in the armed forces and armaments of the Warsaw Pact countries while preserving its own potential in this sphere. Moreover a preliminary condition is set: The Warsaw Pact countries must "acknowledge" their supposed superiority.

NATO's so-called response to the Warsaw Pact countries' Budapest proposals shows clearly that the NATOites are trying to keep the problems of ridding Europe of nuclear weapons and lowering confrontation here in the conventional arms sphere confined within a vicious circle. The attainment of the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe is blocked by references to the lack of measures in the sphere of reducing conventional arms, while impassable barriers made up of artificially adduced linkages, conditions, and stipulations are erected in the path of conventional arms reduction.

The competent Soviet organs and departments are carefully studying all the relevant documents from the NATO Council session. Of course, there will also be consultations on this question with the USSR's Warsaw Pact allies, after which an official response will be given to the documents of the December NATO Council session. It is clear, however, that progress is resolving the problem of reducing armed forces and conventional arms still depends on the NATO countries' sincere readiness to seriously to tackle this matter.

CHERVOV DETAILS 'DESTABILIZING NATURE' OF SDI

AU161324 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 11 Dec 86 p 6

[Report on statement by USSR Colonel General Nikolay Chervov given to NOVOSTI military commentator Vasiliy Morozov: "The Destabilizing Nature of the So-Called Strategic Defense Initiative; the United States Acts Against the Antimissile Defense Treaty" -- date and place not given; first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Text] Since the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik, Washington representatives have been trying to claim that the American so-called Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program and the Soviet-American treaty on antimissile defense are, on the whole, mutually compatible. In a talk with NOVOSTI's military commentator Vasiliy Morozov, Soviet military expert Colonel General Nikolay Chervov comments on these statements by Washington representatives:

The U.S. Administration invokes the well-known Agreed Statement (D) on the antimissile defense treaty and asserts that the United States is "legally and morally entitled" to realize the SDI program and that this program is being carried out "in full compliance with the antimissile defense treaty." In so doing the U.S. Administration deliberately distorts the substance of the issue and relies on the lack of information. Judge for yourself: It is possible to speak about some sort of legal entitlement to SDI when Article 1 of the antimissile defense treaty prohibits the deployment of such a system on a country's territory or the creation of the foundation for any such sort of defense? Article 5 of the treaty prohibits the development, testing, and deployment of space-based antimissile defense systems or components, regardless of the kind of technology on which they are based. The U.S. activity oriented to transporting antimissile defense components into space is directly aimed against these fundamental provisions of the antimissile defense treaty.

The Agreed Statement (D) is an integral part of the antimissile defense treaty and cannot be set against the other provisions of the treaty, particularly Article 5. [paragraph continues]

This Agreed Statement (D) permits the development and testing of antimissile defense devices based on physical principles other than those that existed at the time of the signing of the treaty, but only within the framework of a limited sphere of antimissile defense (with a range of 150 km), which is defined for each side by Article 3 of the treaty and which applies only to deployment of stationary ground systems in that area. Thus, the United States is neither legally nor morally entitled to realize the SDI program.

From its very foundations, the SDI program is at sharp variance with the antimissile defense treaty. It robs the treaty of its purpose, and thus disturbs the mechanism for stopping the process of a feverish arms buildup. It is directly oriented toward the deployment of weapons in space and as a result it will inevitably become a strong catalyst of a feverish arms buildup in all respects. It will greatly weaken the security of both the USSR and the United States, as well as the security of the whole world. This program is the main obstacle in the way of a nuclear-free world.

It is no coincidence that in the United States, efforts to maneuver around the antimissile defense treaty have begun: Various interpretations of it have been put forward and even a proposal that this treaty be replaced by some sort of new agreement that would not be at variance with the SDI program and would provide for the deployment of antimissile systems in space. Considering that, in Washington's view, the SDI is not at variance with the antimissile defense treaty, one might well ask why in Reykjavik the U.S. President proposed a new agreement to replace the existing permanent antimissile defense treaty at the same time as an agreement on reducing strategic offensive weapons? It is precisely in answering this question that it is possible to expose two approaches to the problem.

The USSR would like to strengthen this treaty; it would like the two sides to pledge not to exceed its framework as long as possible or to undertake anything that would disturb the limits prescribed by the treaty. The United States -- even though it agrees not to exceed the framework of the antimissile defense treaty for a certain number of years -- would like to work within the framework of the SDI program during these years in such a way as to be able to carry out tests of antimissile defense components in space so that when the deadline for not exceeding the obligations defined in the treaty expires, it could immediately begin deploying new offensive space weapons the following day. In other words, the USSR regards the antimissile defense treaty as the fundamental basis for ensuring stable strategic mutual relations between the two sides and is firmly and consistently for strengthening the order established by the treaty. The United States expresses its "concern" for the fate of this document in word only; in reality it is bent on disturbing it and undermining it not only as a whole, but also in its individual parts.

The U.S. Administration alleges that the SDI is defensive. Well, it is an exclusively military program. Within the framework of this program the most modern weapons are being developed (laser, ray, and kinetic weapons; electromagnetic cannons, self-homing missiles and projectiles), weapons that have great destructive power and the ability to selectively destroy objects in space thousands of miles away and on earth from space, within a brief span of time and on a mass scale. By their range these weapons are global weapons: Deployed in orbit around the earth and equipped with maneuvering systems, they would be capable of appearing at any time over the territory of any state and genuinely threatening its security.

The offensive space devices that are being developed by the United States are, according to their properties, offensive weapons. First, they can be used to destroy the other side's most important space satellites unexpectedly, with the objective of "blinding" it, surprising it, and thus depriving it of the opportunity to launch a retaliatory action for a nuclear attack.

Second, space devices have a very long range -- 4-5,000 km. Can a weapon with a range of 4-5,000 km be regarded as defensive? Of course not. It is a universal weapon, capable of destroying objects in space, and objects on earth from space.

The SDI program concentrates on acquiring a first-strike capability and gaining military superiority over the USSR and other countries with the aim of blackmailing them and foisting its will on them. This means that, in a purely military sense, the SDI today undermines the existing strategic equilibrium.

Why is the White House pushing this program and giving it priority? It is doing so, above all, for the benefit of the military-industrial complex, which will make huge profits. According to an estimate by American experts, in the stage of research and test-construction work within the framework of SDI alone, industrial companies could make $70 billion profit in 10 years. The SDI is the "insurance" for the prosperity of the arms manufacturers.

At the meeting in Reykjavik the U.S. Administration revealed its true intentions: Proclaiming its dedication to the regime of the antimissile defense treaty, it tried to get the USSR to accept the testing and deployment of space components of the antimissile defense system, while simultaneously reducing the USSR and U.S. ballistic missiles by 50 percent. What is the objective being pursued here?

With the agreement of the Soviet Union, during the agreed period (10 years), the United States, while formally adhering to the antimissile defense treaty, would like to develop and test everything that is required for deploying an extensive antimissile defense system with space elements. When this work has been completed and the feasibility of the SDI proved the United States will begin to deploy its space antimissile defense system and simply brush the antimissile defense treaty aside. By that time, according to Washington's plans, the two sides would have carried out a far-reaching reduction of their ballistic missiles, to the level of 4,500 warheads for example, and that would already make the buildup of a space antimissile defense much easier and create faith in its reliability.

It must be clear to everyone that we will not help the United States to render us defenseless against it. The Soviet Union regards the SDI program is being directly aimed against itself. This military program must be halted (with the exception of laboratory research and tests). Here, no compromise is possible. If the United States continues work on the SDI program, and thus also carries out tests of antimissile defense components in space, the USSR will be forced to adopt appropriate retaliatory measures which will devalue the SDI. The USSR is able to do so. Our retaliatory measures will make it necessary for the United States to search for a response to them. And where will that lead? To a feverish arms buildup which will drag on for decades.

In Reykjavik Mikhail Gorbachev submitted proposals that would create a new situation between the USSR and the United States, including at the talks in Geneva. If the United States really wishes a radical disarmament, this task could be solved now: The USSR is willing, in the event agreement is reached on strengthening the regime of the antimissile defense treaty, to come to an agreement on a deep reduction of strategic offensive arms and the elimination of intermediate-range weapons in Europe.

U.S. VIOLATION OF SALT II POSES 'DANGER'

LD161818 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- Military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

In their recent message to President Reagan 57 American senators expressed concern at the U.S. Administration's rejection of the SALT-2 treaty. The senators qualify this step taken by the White House as being detrimental to the national security of the United States.

Indeed, the threat to the whole world increases and in this respect the United States is no exception.

The wrecking of the structure of restraining the race in strategic offensive arms would have unpredictable consequences. In the SALT-2 treaty and the SALT-1 agreement there are many provisions enabling the USSR and the United States reliably to monitor the development of the strategic situation. Each side has a possibility to predict what can happen in the strategic field on the other side and know that this can not transcend certain limits. And it is this that ensured strategic stability and impeded the possibility of disrupting parity by drastically building up strategic offensive arms.

Then there is yet another very important aspect of the Soviet-American accords on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. The SALT-2 treaty bans the creation of impediments to national technical means of verification of the other side, in particular, observation satellites and also the masking of strategic arms. In the absence of the treaty any side can consider itself free of these obligations as well and create additional difficulties for the other side in evaluating its strategic offensive forces and, I would even say, intentions. This is another factor that will enhance instability, a drastic decline in trust and a growth of suspiciousness with all the ensuring consequences. There arises the danger of a sort of strategic chaos.

The White House clearly did not give all this much thought. Trying to make up to the extreme right-wing circles in the United States for his "two-day infatuation" with a vision of a nuclear-free world in Reykjavik, the President evidently decided to show these circles that he not only does not intend to press for many progress along the road to limiting and eliminating nuclear arms but even intends in the remaining two years in office to make a serious effort to put an end to the existing agreements and totally wreck the existing regime of restraining the arms race. More than that, he thereby tries to fetter also the future administrations to the arms race. But such a policy poses a danger to the whole world, including to the United States.

PRAVDA'S AFANASYEV ARGUES NEED FOR COEXISTENCE

PM101645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[V. Afanasyev article: "The New Political Thinking" -- capitalized words between slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] The most acute problem facing mankind now is the problem of war and peace. The problem as such is not new; wars have "accompanied" mankind throughout its history. Scientists have calculated that of the 4,500 years of recorded history only about 300 years were absolutely peaceful. During the remaining time people were fighting with each other in various parts of the world on a large or small scale. Until the present century it was a question of /LOCAL/ wars, limited in terms of both territory and the number of states taking part in them. Wars of this kind still take place today (the undeclared war against Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, and so forth).

The 20th century has given birth to a new type of war -- /WORLD WAR/ -- in which dozens of countries and tens of millions of people take part. Mankind has survived two such wars. In the first, 38 states took part; 74 million people were mobilized; 10 million people were killed, and 20 million were wounded or shell-shocked. In the second, 72 states took part; 110 million people were placed under arms, and the toll in human lives amounted to 55 million.

The specter of a new world war, a monstrous thermonuclear war, is hovering in the air today. And what is more, it is not so much a specter as a real danger. The means of waging such war -- stockpiles of nuclear weapons -- are available, and there are people capable of detonating these stockpiles. They are the darkest forces of imperialist reaction.

Should such a war break out, it would probably be mankind's last war. The nuclear holocaust would reduce everything to ashes; the devastating nuclear blast would destroy everything in its path, and the lethal radioactive poison would put an end to human civilization and clearly destroy all life on earth.

To be or not to be -- this cannot be a rhetorical question when it applies to mankind as a whole. How can the problem of war and peace be resolved in favor of peace? How can peace be preserved and social and individual progress ensured? These are very complex questions indeed.

In order to answer them, the former "pre-nuclear," "pre-space age" thinking in politics is no longer any use. What is needed is new political thinking in line with the present-day historical conditions.

V.I. Lenin stood at the cradle of this thinking. It is based on the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. Lenin was deeply convinced that socialism would sooner or later triumph throughout the world. However, this victory cannot occur simultaneously in all countries. Depending on the level of economic development, the acuteness of the class struggle, the correlation of social forces, and other conditions, certain countries will achieve socialism earlier than others. Proceeding from this premise, Lenin drew the conclusion that during the long historical period when socialist countries and capitalist countries will exist side by side, they will have to coexist; they will have live with each other on earth. Lenin was an advocate of peaceful coexistence, and the Communist Party and the Soviet state have based their relations with capitalist countries on this Leninist principle.

Peaceful coexistence presupposes the renunciation of war as well as the use of, or threat of the use of, force as a means of resolving disputes; the settling of such disputes by means of negotiations; noninterference in each other's internal affairs and consideration of one another's legitimate interests; a people's right to decide their own destiny; strict observance of states' sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the inviolability of their borders; cooperation based on complete equality and mutual advantage; and conscientious implementation of all obligations ensuing from generally accepted principles and norms of international law and international treaties that have been concluded.

V.I. Lenin lived, worked, thought, and fought at a time when science was only beginning to penetrate into the realm of the atom, and its nucleus remained a well-sealed secret. The nuclear danger which is now hovering over mankind did not exist.

Since V.I. Lenin's death, and especially in recent decades, the historical situation has changed radically; we have entered the /NUCLEAR AND SPACE AGE/. A nuclear monster has been created, and as a result mankind itself is in great danger.

History itself has set both theory and practice a task of fundamental importance, the task of preserving peace, preventing a nuclear holocaust, and -- without closing our eyes to social, political, and ideological contradictions -- mastering the science and art of behaving with restraint and circumspection in the international arena and living in a civilized fashion. In other words, creating conditions of correct international conduct and cooperation. The CPSU has resolved this task. The /CONCEPT OF THE NEW POLITICAL THINKING/ provides the answer to the aforesaid situations.

The main ideas and premises on which this concept is based are contained in the materials of the 27th CPSU Congress. The present-day world has become too small and fragile for wars and power politics, the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the congress noted. The world has become fragile because it could shatter like a nut under the impact of even a small part of the stockpile of nuclear bombs. The world has become small because delivery vehicles have been built which are capable of sending these bombs to any part of the earth within minutes.

"The world cannot be saved and preserved," the report said, "unless ideas and actions which have for centuries been based on the permissibility of wars and armed conflicts are discarded resolutely and irreversibly."

/THE RENUNCIATION OF WARS AND POWER POLITICS/ in the nuclear and space age is the main premise on which the concept of the new political thinking is built. This concept was further developed in subsequent party documents and speeches by the Central Committee general secretary. M.S. Gorbachev's materials and speeches during his recent visit to India have contributed a great deal to its development.

/THE CONCEPT OF THE NEW POLITICAL THINKING MEANS A PROFOUND AND UNPREJUDICED UNDERSTANDING OF THE NUCLEAR AND SPACE REALITIES OF OUR TIME, AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACTS THAT:/

In our time, when weapons have been created which call into question the very existence of mankind, there is only one choice; namely, to coexist or cease existing. Thus it is not just a matter of rivalry and confrontation between two social systems but a matter of choosing between survival and mutual destruction;

The highly complex problems and profound differences and conflicts which prevail in the present-day world can be resolved only by political means, by means of talks rather than by means of science and technology; and still less by means of military force, the force of arms;

The differences in sociopolitical systems, ideology, and specific national, cultural, and other features are not an obstacle to dialogue for the sake of peace. While giving up none of its national pride, interests, or values, every nation must be able to channel them into the achievement of the main aim -- saving human civilization;

All countries of the world are interconnected and interdependent; all people live on one planet, the earth;

Victory in nuclear war is unthinkable; there can be no victors -- only the vanquished -- in such a war;

The ideas of achieving military superiority are unrealizable and illusory;

Space belongs to all mankind, and its use for military purposes would be inhumane and illegal;

In order to survive, mankind must prevent the militarization of space and eliminate nuclear weapons from the earth;

All countries and peoples -- be they big, medium, or small -- must take part in the effort to build peace and reliable security;

The security of some countries cannot be ensured at the expense of others; security can only be identical, mutual, and comprehensive -- international security, that is. There is only one world, and its security is indivisible;

Human values must be given priority since the world belongs to people, to the present and future generations;

Human life must be recognized as the supreme value, because only man is the creator of the material and spiritual values which society possesses, and only his creative genius ensures progress and civilization in conditions of peace.

In giving priority to common human values and human life and advocating a nonviolent world, the CPSU in no way renounces the party and class approach to social processes and wars. The CPSU's main aim has been and remains the ultimate aim of the working class -- the building of communism. The CPSU supports the international workers, communists, and national liberation movements and wages an uncompromising ideological struggle against its class enemies.

Marxists are not pacifists; they regard just -- defensive and liberation -- wars as natural and normal.

In conducting their affairs in the international arena, the CPSU and the Soviet state are strictly guided by the principles of the new political thinking. The preservation and consolidation of peace and the reduction and subsequent complete elimination of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons is their main foreign policy task. And it cannot be otherwise. After all, peace -- as Lenin himself said -- is socialism's ideal. And peace is especially vital for us now, because only in conditions of peace can we implement the impressive programs of restructuring and accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

The party is sparing no effort to achieve this aim -- the preservation of peace.

The program for building a nuclear-free world put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in his 15 January 1986 statement is imbued with a sense of great responsibility for the fate of mankind and its survival.

Acting consistently, step by step, beginning with the current year, which has been declared International Peace Year by the United Nations, it is possible to implement and complete the process of delivering the earth from nuclear weapons. Provided, of course, that the creation of space strike arms is completely abandoned.

If this program were adopted, it would only take 15 years to translate it into reality. We could enter the third millennium free from the threat of "nuclear winter," under clear skies which will never be marred by lethal nuclear clouds. But in order to achieve this, tremendous efforts on the part of governments, parties, all peace-loving forces, and all peoples are needed.

The program makes provision for the complete elimination of chemical weapons and of the industrial base for their production, and also for a reduction in conventional arms and armed forces.

Important disarmament initiatives were put forward at the 27th CPSU Congress. The CPSU Central Committee Political Report contained a proposal to create a comprehensive system of international security and showed the basic foundations of such a system in the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres.

The question of a moratorium on all nuclear explosions is of exceptional, not to say key, importance for the cause of disarmament. A positive solution to this question would put an end to the qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and pave the way for their reduction. After all, ultimately it is necessary to halt the senseless and extremely dangerous nuclear arms race, to put an end to it!

Clearly aware of this, the Soviet Union declared a moratorium on all nuclear explosions on 6 August 1985 (the 40th anniversary of the day the U.S. dropped an atom bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima). We have extended this moratorium four times in the hope that the United States would follow our example. It did not. On the contrary, around 30 nuclear devices have been detonated under the Nevada desert while our moratorium has been in force.

In October 1986, in Reykjavik, accords of historic significance were achieved. A world without nuclear weapons came into sight, not as a mirage, but as a possible reality which could take shape as soon as tomorrow -- provided that both sides want this and show responsibility. However, the reality did not materialize because of the notorious SDI program, which the incumbent of the White House literally clung to.

The Soviet Union, loyal to the spirit of Reykjavik, regards it as a point of departure from which we must advance in the cause of disarmament toward the reduction and complete elimination of nuclear weapons and the nonmilitarization of space.

Convincing evidence of the desire to implement the principles of the new political thinking is provided by the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons, signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi on 27 November 1986.

Building such a world, the declaration says, calls for specific and immediate measures aimed at disarmament; it could be achieved by concluding agreements on:

The total destruction of nuclear arsenals by the end of the current century;
A ban on the placement of any weapons in space, which is the common asset of mankind;
A total nuclear test ban;
A ban on the development of new types of mass destruction weapons;
A ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of the stockpiles of these weapons;
And a reduction in the level of conventional arms and armed forces.

The Soviet Union and India proposed that an international convention be concluded banning the use or threat of the use of nuclear weapons until these weapons are eliminated.

There are still many difficulties hampering the implementation of these proposals, since the leaders of the United States and certain other Western countries do not want to think and act along new lines in politics and are clinging to the unrealizable idea of achieving military superiority.

It is true that they sometimes say good and useful things. Let us recall Geneva in November 1985 in this context. There, the U.S. President agreed "that nuclear war must never be unleashed and that there can be no winners in such a war." In the joint Soviet-U.S. statement the importance of preventing any war, whether nuclear or conventional, was emphasized, and the desire was expressed to "forestall an arms race in space and end it on earth, to limit and reduce nuclear arms, and to strengthen strategic stability."

Sensible words. It was these words which engendered the "spirit of Geneva," the spirit of hope. It seemed that fresh, warm winds were about to begin to blow which would melt the ice of the "cold war." [PRAVDA in Russian on 5 December in its Second Edition replaces the preceding sentence with the following: "It seemed that fresh, warm winds were about to blow, and our planet would become warmer."] However, this did not happen because these words of the U.S. President remained mere words, in contrast to his actions which have worked and continue to work against the interests of peace and people's security. The implementation of unprecedented military programs, the feverish efforts to translate the SDI plans into reality, the nuclear tests carried out one after another in quick succession, the breaching of the limits laid down by the SALT II treaty, the deployment of Lance missiles in South Korea, preparations for war against Nicaragua, and the barbaric raid on Libya -- this is by no means the full list of actions which are very far removed indeed from the ideals of peace and humanity. A truly militarist madness has seized the transatlantic globalists who aspire to world supremacy. They absolutely refuse to abandon the thesis that the only way to negotiate with the USSR is from a position of strength, a thesis whose bankruptcy was proved long ago.

The Soviet Union is a mighty, proud, and great country which will never give up its independence and will never tolerate diktat.

Throughout history, reason and madness have been eternal opposites. There have been occasions when madness prevailed over reason, but it was always a temporary victory. Ultimately, reason has always triumphed. We must believe that this is what will happen on this occasion, too. Mankind will not allow itself to be destroyed.

FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PYADYSHEV BRIEFS JOURNALISTS

Assesses NATO Session

LD161522 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1420 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- The session of the NATO Council, which has ended in Brussels, has shown that the NATO countries are not ready for a complete elimination of nuclear arms, said Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, at today's briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists held in the USSR Foreign Ministry's Press Center. Linking their military plans precisely to the nuclear factor and clearly being in difficulty to explain their unwillingness, as a matter of principle, to part company with nuclear arms, the NATO members are confined to hackneyed references to the nuclear deterrence factor which, it is alleged, is the guarantee of NATO's security, pointed out the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman.

It is clear from the materials of the NATO session that the United States is departing more and more from the Reykjavik spirit and from the positions indicated there by both sides. The NATO session has shown that it is obvious that the leadership of this bloc has no wish to consider the prospect of a complete elimination of nuclear arms.

We were expecting a reply from the NATO council to the Budapest program of reductions in armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe. We have not received this reply in full, Boris Pyadyshev said.

But we would not want to regard NATO's present proposals on conventional armaments as entirely negative. The Brussels declaration on verification [kontrol] of conventional armaments speaks of the expediency of "drafting a new mandate for talks in the field of verification [kontrol] of conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals."

At the same time, the hackneyed idea of "assymetrical reductions" of conventional armaments was again articulated. This meawns the question is really being posed in such a way that only the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact member-countries should engage in reductions of conventional weapons. The NATO session has embarked on an open course of accelerated build-up of conventional weapons by the members of the organization.

Gorbachev Japan Trip Postponed

LD161453 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- The Japanese side was officially informed that the visit by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Japan within the time-frame proposed by it, that is before the end of January, 1987, regrettably does not seem possible because of the Soviet side's heavy workload, Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Department of the USSR Information Ministry, told a briefing at the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry today.

At the same time, the question of the visit will remain on the agenda and Mikhail Gorbachev as before intends to pay a visit to Japan but somewhat later. It would be possible to return to discussing the issue of the time of the visit tentatively next spring, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Telebridge Accord With U.S.

LD161744 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- The meeting between the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Viktor Afanasyev and members of the U.S. preparatory committee for holding television debates between Soviet and American parliamentarians was rounded off with an accord on arranging in 1987 for six television hook-ups united by the common theme-motto "New Thinking in the Space Age", Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told a briefing here today.

Under the accord, the first broadcast "Let Us Get Acquainted" scheduled for March, 1987 will be devoted to the familiarization by the sides with the political systems, legislative process, a person's position in society, his or her constiutional rights and duties in the USSR and the United States.

In the first half of the year, Soviet and American televiewers will also discuss via a television link-up such issues as environment protection, public health, international security and efforts to avert a nuclear war. It is planned to discuss in the future, among others, the questions of human rights and regional conflicts.

Telebridges is a new form of contacts between the legislative bodies of the USSR and the United States, an important channel for deepening truth and promoting mutual understanding between the Soviet and American peoples, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted.

JAMMING OF WESTERN BROADCASTS SAID ENDING IN JAN

LD141222 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] The Soviet Union is to abandon the jamming of Western radio transmissions from the beginning of next year, says our Moscow correspondent, who has received the report from well-informed sources in the Soviet capital. The Soviet transmissions have disrupted transmissions in Russian by such stations as the BBC and VOA, and thus it has most affected the Soviet citizens who want to listen to foreign radio stations.

Meets Dobrynin 15 Dec

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SENATOR HART

LD161313 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1204 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Fron the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Dobrynin met U.S. Senator Gary Hart on 15 December. During a detailed discussion, an exchange of views took place about the state of and prospects for Soviet-U.S. relations.

Received by Shevardnadze

LD161750 Mocow TASS in English 1733 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received the prominent American politician Senator Gary Hart, who is now staying in Moscow, on the latter's request.

During their conversation Eduard Shevardnadze noted the complex and contradictory nature of the present stage of Soviet-American relations. Preconditions for their positive, ongoing development were created at the meeting in Reykjavik which opened up real possibilities for a cardinal solution of the questions of war and peace in the interests of the security not only of the USSR and the United States but also of the entire world community. The task is to proceed firmly from the positive moments of Reykjavik and ensure a steady advance along the road of reducing and liquidating nuclear arsenals, keeping arms out of outer space, and developing equal and mutually advantageous cooperation in most diverse fields.

However, the U.S. Administration, carrying on its destructive policy, has not only adopted a line towards a revision of the results of the Reykjavik meeting and towards eroding the accords reached there but also through its unilateral actions disrupts the established treaty system for curbing the arms race, Eduard Shevardnadze said.

This is precisely what is evidenced by the decision of the U.S. side to abandon the SALT-2 treaty and its steps aimed at undermining the ABM Treaty. The U.S. Administration stubbornly goes ahead with the policy of heightening tension in various parts of the world and of stirring up regional conflicts.

The Soviet Union, showing restraint and consistency, firmly adheres to the course towards building a nuclear-free world on the basis of the comprehensive programme dated January 15, 1986, and towards the implementation of the other initiatives aimed at ensuring real disarmament.

There was a detailed exchange of views on other aspects of relations between the USSR and the USA, and on some common international matters.

The two sides expressed a mutual desire to develop Soviet-U.S. contacts at various levels, including parliamentary ones, promoting mutual understanding and stabilisation of relations between the two countries.

The day before Gary Hart had visited the Space Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and had a conversation with the institute's director, Academician Roald Sagdeyev.

Hart Interviewed on SDI

LD171140 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; interview with U.S. Senator Gary Hart with unidentified station correspondent; Hart and correspondent speaking in English with superimposed Russian translation -- live or recorded]

[Text] In the quest for the kind of international relations which would be based on a recognition of the profound changes which have taken place in the world over 30-40 years, the USSR and the United States could do a great deal. This was emphasized yesterday at the meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and U.S. Senator Gary Hart. This is what the senator said in an interview with our correspondent:

[Hart] I had a very good and warm conversation with General Secretary Gorbachev, a very open and honest one. The general secretary set out the Soviet position on arms control according to Reykjavik. And this helped me to have a better understanding of what happened there.

[Correspondent] The subject of SDI is now being widely discussed in our countries. What is your opinion of this program?

[Hart] I took an active part in the struggle to reduce spending on armaments which the Reagan administration demanded, but I believe that the SDI problem cannot be seen in just one dimension. It also involves research carried out by the Soviet Union. Many Americans, including myself, are anxious about it. I think that both countries should approach research in the field of space armaments very carefully.

[Correspondent] As we know, you supported the movement in support of a nuclear weapons freeze. Did this not damage your popularity in the conditions of the so-called "conservative wave" in the United States?

[Hart] No, the vast majority of the American people want arms control and want a limitation in the number of nuclear weapons from both sides. I believe that there does not exist a conservative wave in the United States which is strong enough to suppress this desire. The majority of Americans want the same as the Soviet people. They want to work and to have all the necessary things to live, and for peace. I don't believe that these values are now any less important to them than armaments.

As you know, the U.S. Congress every year for the past 4 or 5 years has reduced President Reagan's military budget. [Hart says in English "defense budget"]

[Correspondent] In 1984 you said that the United States, it seems, is forgetting the lessons of Watergate. Have you changed your opinion?

[Hart] I don't remember saying that in 1984. Perhaps I did. But when I ran for senator in 1974 I said that the memory of Watergate would remain for about 20 years. And I think that it is. As far as our problems are concerned, we are very open. As you know, not every country is so open in its attitude to discussion and criticism from the press. I think that every time a subject like Watergate crops up, we have an honest debate and an inquiry, and as a result we learn from it.

[Correspondent] What measures do you think are necessary to make relations between our countries more stable?

[Hart] A serious and immediate reduction in arms, [Hart says in English "nuclear weapons"] balanced and controlled; a reduction in tension between the armed forces of NATO and the Warsaw Pact in Europe; more active economic cooperation, and more active exchanges of groups of people and cultural ties.

[Correspondent in English] Thank you very much.

[Hart in English] Thank you, my pleasure.

U.S. PRESS PROBES REAGAN, REGAN ROLE IN 'IRANGATE'

LD151505 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 15 Dec 86

[From the "International Diary" program; Georgiy Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] The U.S. press continues to discuss the details of the scandal around the secret supplies of U.S. weapons to Iran. I would like to hand over to my colleague, Georgiy Alekseyev:

Alekseyev] Here are some new facts. It has turned out, for example, that part of the money made from the sale of arms to Iran was not only directed to the Nicaraguan contras, as became known initially. One of the U.S. papers which comes out in the town of Lowell has at its disposal information that part of the Iran money was directed toward financing supporters of President Reagan at the recent elections to Congress.

At the same time it is considered that the investigation into "Irangate", which is being carried out in Washington by special congressional committees, is gradually reaching deadlock. The third high-ranking official of the National Security Council apparatus, Lieutenant Colonel North, has refused categorically to give evidence on the matter of how secret supplies of arms to Iran were carried out and how the money made was transferred to the Nicaraguan contras. New facts are also being concealed showing that the highest echelons of executive power in the United States, and primarily the CIA, were mixed up in this operation. As THE WASHINGTON POST writes, it was precisely the U.S. spy department that drew up the details of the deal back in summer 1985. furthermore, the idea to carry out the operation in secret from Congress also came originally from the CIA, but the final decision on this matter was taken by President Reagan.

As you know, the CIA boss, Casey, is stubbornly trying to prove that his role and the role of his department in this incident was minimal. However, according to evidence of the same WASHINGTON POST, which refers to well-informed circles, Casey encouraged the secret initiative by the White House toward Iran, and formed his opinion on the basis of intelligence data. The data boiled down to supporting Israel's claims that moderate people in Iran were prepared to start talks with the United States. Thus from the very outset the Iran operation was carried out in close interaction with the Israeli intelligence service Mosad.

The role in this scandal of Regan, White House chief of staff, whose resignation is now being demanded by many politicians, has also not been completely cleared up. It is apparent from the latest reports of news agencies that Regan will probably appear before a special Senate committee to give evidence. It is also rumored that President Reagan himself will possibly give an explanation to experts who are engaged on the behalf of Congress in investigating the circumstances of "Irangate."

By the way, the U.S. press is devoting much attention to the President. Observers are even trying to make certain comparisons between the present scandal and Watergate, when, if you remember, President Nixon was forced to resign. For example, THE NEW YORK TIMES considers that if Reagan admits in the end that he did not know about the actions of the officials of the National Security Council his position would be even worse than if it became clear that he managed the implementation of this plan.

At least, the paper continues, something can be said in defense of a President who, having decided upon a political risk gave an incorrect command that he firmly believed was in the national interest. But absolutely nothing can be said in favor a President lacking in such consideration for his duties that medium-ranking naval and marine officials, among his officials, were able to carry out a policy unhindered which in all probability was bound to undermine U.S. foreign policy.

It is difficult to say what result the "Irangate" investigation will have. As yet everything is being done to remove the President himself from attack. As for comparing the present scandal with Watergate, well the latter was to a greater extent determined by the domestic problems of the United States, and the interparty struggle. Irangate has more serious political consequences, since it concerns trust in the United States, even from its allies.

RESIGNING NSC STAFFERS PART OF CARLUCCI 'PURGE'

LD162221 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 16 TASS — Correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The White House has officially announced the forthcoming resignations of two high-placed officials of the National Security Council.

Deputy White House Press Secretary Larry Speakes confirmed that Howard Teicher, director of the NSC Department for Political and Military Affairs, was going to leave his post in March. The ASSOCIATED PRESS described Teicher as the architect of the secret plan to supply arms to Iran.

Speakes also confirmed reports of the resignation of the Executive Secretary of the National Security Council and Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Rodney McDaniel.

It is believed here that the departure of these two from the White House is only the beginning of a big purge of the NSC staff planned by the new assistant to the President for national security affairs Frank Carlucci. These speedy measures are first of all an attempt to dampen the scandal that has caused a sharp decline of the Reagan administration's credibility.

IZVESTIYA SUES U.S. CITIZEN FOR 'DEFAMATION'

LD161536 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- The newspaper "IZVESTIYA" editorial board sued a U.S. national R.P. Gregoryan, owner of the California international trade firm, for defamation at the Moscow City Court. Genrikh Padva, well-known lawyer and member of the Moscow Bar Association, represents the interests of "IZVESTIYA". The Moscow City Court instituted proceedings and will set hearings in open court after January 12, 1987, "IZVESTIYA" reports today.

ROK 'SLANDER' AGAINST DPRK DAM PROJECT VIEWED

PM121530 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 9 Dec 86 p 3

[Vladimir Lapin "Commentator's Opinion" column: "Slanderers From Seoul"]

[Text] It has long been known that imperialism's propaganda arsenals are full of slander and disinformation. From time to time another antisocialist slander is concocted by them and let loose on the world with heartening cries.

This is what is happening now in South Korea. The pretext for the propagandist orgy unleashed by Chon Tu-hwan against the people's Korea was provided by the building of the Kamgangsan hydroelectric power station in the DPRK. The construction of this important national economic project is declared in Seoul to be "special construction for military purposes." It is alleged that the dam and power station will supposedly be built solely so that at a convenient moment the "perfidious North" could blow them up and flood the Seoul region. Truly, only a wild imagination could dream up such a thing!

These and similar ravings would perhaps not be worth mentioning: It's just a lot of hot air. But it must be observed that the present antisocialist campaign about the "threat from the North" in the south of the Korean peninsula is very reminiscent of the notorious American campaign about the "threat from the East." Not surprisingly. When socialism's enemies feel they are losing ground, they start brandishing the specter of the "red peril." Well, no doubt both companies have the same director, and the scenario is a timeworn one.

Another aspect is also important. The vile campaign has been launched precisely at a time when the wave of the South Korean people's struggle against Chon Tu-hwan's military regime has reached an unprecedented level. By painting bloodcurdling pictures of the horrors which supposedly are threatened by the North, the American puppets want to distract the people at least to some extent from the domestic political struggle, cool that struggle down, and save themselves. But the people in Seoul who are hoarse with antisocialist hysteria, and their masters, are doomed to failure. As has happened many times before, their latest slander concoction will crumble to dust without achieving its goal.

JAPAN'S KURANARI MEETS SHULTZ, NATO OFFICIALS

PM161744 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Commentator's Column": "Tokyo and NATO"]

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister T. Kuranari arrived in Brussels, where he visited NATO headquarters and met with the bloc's secretary general, Carrington. He also met with U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, who was in the Belgian capital for the NATO Council session. Official circles in Tokyo had publicized beforehand the purpose of the meeting -- to declare that even against the background of the scandal over secret operations in Iran and Nicaragua the Japanese Government fully supports U.S. foreign policy.

In the opinion of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, this should improve the shaky prestige of the Reagan administration and help to rally Western countries, so as to strengthen Washington's positions at talks with Moscow. And Tokyo commentators go on to add, as if repeating by rote: Kuranari also assured Shultz of Japan's tireless efforts to lessen bilateral trade and economic contradictions...

These are familiar tactics. Tokyo's representatives are not for the first time taking on the unseemly mission of backing Washington and protecting it against criticism. Selfish interest lies behind this. It is better, they say, to support the United States promptly on military-political issues than to come up against American trade barriers. This was clearly revealed at the meeting of leaders of the leading capitalist states in Williamsburg. Hoping to lull the wave of dissatisfaction over the onslaught of Japanese goods, Prime Minister Nakasone emphasized in every way allied solidarity and Japan's membership of the Western camp, and for the first time adhered officially to the joint statement of the "Big Seven" on military-political questions.

For the sake of such solidarity, Washington is prepared not to mention the fact that this year Japanese exports to the United States could exceed imports by more than $70 billion. After all, American strategists see the strengthening of military cooperation among the United States, Western Europe, and Japan as the path to the creation of a global anti-Soviet coalition. This requires, first, that Japan's military commitments be brought up to the level of the West European allies, and, second, that the strategic triangle be completed by means of direct links between Tokyo and NATO.

The presence of the Japanese minister among his NATO colleagues in Brussels is by no means the first example of such contacts. Some 200 right-wing conservative Japanese parliamentarians, some years ago, created the "council for comprehensively ensuring the security of Japan, the United States, and Western Europe." They have repeatedly attended NATO sessions as observers and received North Atlantic Assembly deputies in Tokyo. Kuranari's visit to NATO headquarters indicates that Japan is becoming more and more deeply involved in the bloc's military-political consultations, and has virtually begun to turn into the "Far Eastern member of NATO."

BRIEFS

DPRK LIGHT INDUSTRY PACT -- Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- The intergovernmental agreement signed in Moscow today, provides for expanding cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK from 1987-1990 and to the year 2000 to produce light industry goods. According to the agreement, two textile combines will be built in the DPRK, designed by and with the technical assistance of the USSR. They will be provided with Soviet equipment. The agreement also envisages cooperation in the manufacture of consumer goods. Korean enterprises will manufacture clothes, semi-finished footwear, and other goods made from Soviet raw materials and products. They will also be exported to the Soviet Union. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1830 GMT 16 Dec 86 LD]

NAJIBULLAH INFORMS PDPA LEADERSHIP ON VISIT

LD161738 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul December 16 TASS -- Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) Central Committee, described the official friendly visit to the USSR by the Afghan delegation as an event of exceptional importance in the cause of strengthening fraternal Soviet-Afghan relations, solving the problems around Afghanistan by peaceful means, achieving national reconciliation and ensuring peace and security in the country.

He assessed the results of the visit at an enlarged meeting involving members and alternate members of the PDPA Central Committee, officials on the staff of the Central Committee, of the Kabul City Committee of the PDPA and regional committees of the capital, officials of ministries and public organisations.

Najibullah told the participants in the meeting about the talks and meetings of the Afghan delegation with Soviet leaders led by Mikhail Gorbachev.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee expressed the gratitude of the leadership and the people of Afghanistan for the constructive stand and all-round support extended by the Soviet Union to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

AFGHAN MEDIA CITED ON NAJIBULLAH VISIT

PM151651 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Okulov dispatch: "Strengthening Fraternal Ties: Afghans on Comrade Najibullah's Visit to the USSR"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Dec -- Afghan mass news media extensively covered the visit by Comrade Nakjibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, to the USSR. The newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, organ of the PDPA Central Committee, carries a report on the welcoming ceremony in Moscow, the Soviet-Afghan talks, the full text of the speeches exchanged by M.S. Gorbachev and Najibullah at the dinner in honor of the Afghan visitor, and other materials. The special importance of the visit, a BAKHTAR commentary emphasizes, consists of the fact that it opens new prospects for strengthening the traditional Soviet-Afghan friendship, the relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation, and the normalization of the situation around Afghanistan. It was emphasized again at the talks that the Soviet Union would not abandon its southern neighbor in its misfortune.

"Comrade Najibullah's visit to the USSR," Candidate Academician (Rakhim Elkham), leader of the DRA Academy of Sciences Language and Literature Center, said in an interview with a HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR correspondent, "is taking place under conditions when positive changes can be observed in our country in various spheres of socioeconomic life. They serve as preconditions for successful advance along the path of national reconciliation and political settlement of the situation in the region. And it is along this path that we sense the support and friendship of our great neighbor."

"Comrade Nakjibullah's visit to the Soviet Union will serve the strengthening of traditional fraternal ties between the USSR and the DRA," (Abdul Rakhim), worker at the State Printing House, declared. "Our countries' friendship has deep roots. The great Lenin and Amanullah-khan stood at its sources. [paragraph continues]

The Soviet Union came to assist our people in the most difficult of historical situations, and it now supports the efforts by the DRA Government and people for a political settlement in the region. We workers perceive the Afghan leader's visit to Moscow as an event of treat importance."

AIR DEFENSE CHIEF KOLDUNOV LEAVES FOR INDIA

PM161227 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On a Visit to India"]

[Text] Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, commander in chief of Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, left Moscow 15 December to pay an official visit to the Republic of India.

Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov was seen off at the airport by Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, and by other generals and officers.

The send-off party included the military, air, and naval attaches at the Indian Embassy in the USSR.

BRIEFS

INDIAN FERROUS METALLURGY -- Moscow December 12 TASS -- R.P. Khosla, a secretary of India's Ministry of Steel and Mines, has described his country's cooperation with the Soviet Union in ferrous metallurgy as an important part of their economic relationship and said it has always had a positive effect on the latter's development. He was speaking in a TASS interview in Moscow where he led an Indian delegation to talks on cooperation between the USSR and India in ferrous metallurgy, which ended today. The talks covered issues of expanding the metallurgical works in Bhilai, modernizing the iron-and-steel project in Bokaro and building another such factory in Vizaginam. [Test] [Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 12 Dec 86 LD]

INDIAN NONFERROUS METALLURGY -- Moscow December 15 TASS -- The aluminium plant in Korba, one of India's biggest enterprises, is again becoming an object of Soviet-Indian cooperation. The output of gallium, special alumina, and very pure aluminium will be organised at this plant in accordance with the working programme of bilateral cooperation in non-ferrous metallurgy in 1986-1990. It is also intended to build at the plant an energy-saving installation to calcinate alumina. The plant in Korba now accounts for the output of more than 30 per cent of all aluminium in the country. The plant in Korba has become a good school for specialists from both countries. Virtually all designing work was performed in the course of close cooperation between Soviet and Indian engineers. It was considering the big importance of non-ferrous metallurgy for India that the sides drew up the new programme of expanding the plant in Korba within the framework of fulfilling the agreement "The Main Directions of the Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and India in the Period of [up to] the Year 2000". [Excerpts] [Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 15 Dec 86 LD]

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON RAROTONGA TREATY

PM161215 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

["Soviet Union Signs Protocols to Rarotonga Treaty" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] On 15 December Ye.M. Samoteykin, USSR ambassador to Australia, signed on the Soviet Government's behalf Protocols 2 and 3 to the Treaty on the Nuclear-Free Zone in the South Pacific (the Rarotonga Treaty) in Suva, the Fijian capital, where the headquarters of the South Pacific Forum -- the regional organization of the countries of the South Pacific -- are located.

The Rarotonga Treaty was approved on 6 August 1985 at the 16th session of the South Pacific Forum on Rarotonga Island (Cook Island). It has been signed by 10 states and ratified by 8 of the 13 South Pacific Forum member-states and came into force on 11 December this year. The treaty envisages the renunciation by those part to it of the production, acquisition, and deployment of all nuclear explosive devices on their territory and bans all nuclear test explosions and the burying of radioactive waste and other radioactive substances within the limits of the zone covered by the treaty.

Three protocols are attached to the treaty which are open for signing by the nuclear powers and provide for their commitments in observing the zone's nonnuclear status. Protocol 1 envisages the commitment of the United States, Britain, and France to apply the relevant provisions of the treaty with regard to territories which they control in the zone in question. Protocol 2 contains a commitment not to use nuclear weapons or to threaten to use them against countries party to the treaty. Protocol 3 contains a commitment not to test any nuclear explosive devices in the zone covered by the treaty.

When signing Protocols 2 and 3 of the Rarotonga Treaty, the Soviet representative made the following Soviet Government statement.

The Soviet Government, which is a consistent supporter of the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world as an important measure in the fight for the elimination of nuclear weapons and wishing to contribute to the efforts of the countries of the South-Pacific Forum in that area, has decided to sign Protocols Two and Three to the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific (the Rarotonga Treaty). The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the creation of such a zone in the South Pacific will serve as an important contribution to forming a reliable security system in the Asian-Pacific region, will strengthen the international regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and will contribute towards the attainment of the task of eliminating the nuclear weapons on earth once and for all.

Expressing its readiness to become a guarantor of a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific, the Soviet Union hopes that all the other nuclear powers will show appropriate responsibility in approaching the initiatives of the countries of that region and will do their utmost to ensure reliably and guarantee a truly non-nuclear status to the non-nuclear zone.

In signing the Protocols Two and Three to the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the southern part of the Pacific, the USSR Government considers it necessary to make the following statement.

1. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the transportation of nuclear explosive devices by parties to the treaty anywhere within the limits and outside the limits of the nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific is covered by the prohibitions

envisaged by Point "A" of Article Three of the treaty, in which the sides commit themselves "not to exercise control over any nuclear explosive devices in any form, anywhere within the limits and outside the limits of the nuclear-free zone."

2. Point Two of Article Five of the treaty permits that each party to the treaty is entitled to taking on its own a decision as regards whether calls of foreign ships and flying vehicles carrying nuclear explosive devices at its ports and airfields or their transit through their territorial sea, archipelago waters and air space be allowed. In that connection the Soviet Union reaffirms its stand that the permission of transit of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in any form and the calls at the ports and airfields within the limits of the nuclear-free zone of foreign war ships and flying vehicles with nuclear explosive devices on board would be in conflict with the aims of the treaty and incompatible with the nuclear-free status of the zone.

3. In the event of any actions undertaken by the state or states, which are parties to the Rarotonga Treaty, in violation of their main commitments under the treaty connected with the non-nuclear status of the zone and perpetration by one or several states -- parties to the treaty of an act of aggression with the support of a state having nuclear weapons or jointly with it with the use of by such a state of the territory, air space, territorial sea or archipelago waters of those countries for calls by naval ships and flying vehicles with nuclear weapons on board or transit of nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will have the right to consider itself free from the commitments undertaken under Protocol Two of the treaty. In the event of any other actions by the parties to the treaty incompatible with their nonnuclear status, the USSR reserves for itself the right to reconsider the commitments undertaken under the said protocol.

4. The Soviet Union proceeds from the premise that the commitments undertaken by it under Protocol Two to the Rarotonga Treaty also apply to the territory, to which the status of the nuclear-free zone applies under Protocol One to the treaty. In so doing, the Soviet Union reaffirms its stand on the granting of independence to the colonial countries and peoples under the UN declaration on that issue (UN General Assembly Resolution 1514/XV of December 14, 1960).

5. The Soviet Government declares that the provisions of the articles of Protocols Two and Three can apply to the text of the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the southern Pacific in the wording of the treaty in which it has been formulated by the time of the signing of the protocols by the USSR Government, considering its stand set forth in this statement. In this connection, no amendment to the treaty that would come into force in accordance with the provisions of Article Eleven or any change in the geographical outlines in the nuclear-free zone as set in Point "A" of Article One and described in Supplement One to the treaty, without an explicitly expressed consent to that by the USSR.

SHEVARDNADZE SENDS MESSAGE TO S. PACIFIC FORUM

PM161217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

["USSR Foreign Minister's Message" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, has sent a message to Kamisese Mara, chairman of the South Pacific Forum and prime minister of Fiji, answering the letter sent earlier by Kamisese Mara, forwarding the texts of the protocols to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Free Zone in the South Pacific Ocean.

The message reports the decision by the Soviet Government to sign Protocols 2 and 3 to the treaty. At the same time it is noted that the Soviet Union's support for the setting up of a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific is entirely natural, inasmuch as this step by the states of the South Pacific Forum is entirely in accordance with the main goal our country is supporting on the international scene -- ending the arms race on earth and preventing it in space.

The bold and, at the same time, completely feasible program that we set forth at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik, and which makes it possible to rid the world of nuclear arms by the end of this century, is directed precisely toward achieving these goals, the message stresses. Our proposals are aimed also at preventing the spread of the military rivalry into space. The Soviet Union counterposes the extremely expensive and particularly dangerous arms race in space, which would also become the main obstacle to liquidating nuclear arms, with a realistic alternative -- a peaceful mastering of space on the basis of cooperation of all states for universal benefit and prosperity.

The message continues as follows:

We entirely share the South Pacific countries' anxiety at the nuclear explosions which continue to thunder in their region, and we understand their desire to put an end to this. For its part, the Soviet Union persistently works for a complete ban on nuclear tests everywhere in the world. Serving as evidence of the sincerity of our intentions on this question is the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which has been strictly observed by the Soviet Union for nearly 1 and 1/2 years. Unfortunately, the present U.S. Administration has not responded to the appeals which have been heard throughout the world to join this unilateral action by the Soviet Union, and has thus not permitted a major step to be taken on the road to nuclear disarmament.

In advocating a practical transition to the building of a nuclear-free world and the creation of a reliable security equal for all states, we are convinced that this task must be placed above all disputes between states and ideological disagreements. Its solution concerns everyone.

By declaring their region a nuclear-free zone, the countries of the South Pacific Forum have once again demonstrated that in the process of liberating mankind from the nuclear burden, there is room for all states, large and small.

We are confident that if the other nuclear powers, like the Soviet Union, take a duly responsible attitude to this initiative, and do everything on their part to ensure that the declared zone enjoys real nonnclear status, security in the whole Pacific region will be considerably strengthened.

The Soviet Union has no less an interest than the countries of the South Pacific Forum in ensuring that the situation in the Pacific is determined not by military preparations and the policy of confrontation, but by efforts to strengthen security. This is understandable since, though we live far apart, our shores are washed by the same Pacific Ocean.

In urging the creation of a all-embracing system of international peace and security, the Soviet Union considers that the region of Asia and the Pacific must become an inseparable part of that system. Moreover, our country has made a whole series of concrete proposals on this subject, dealing both with the reduction of naval activity in the Pacific and with the elaboration of measures to ensure the safety of sea routes in the region, and other matters.

We are in favor of jointly building new, just relations in the Asia-Pacific region with full respect for the right of each nation to live according to its choice, and to resolve its problems independently, in conditions of peace and security. We value highly the developing contacts with the countries of the South Pacific Forum, and think they are natural and useful.

The Soviet Union's signing of the protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty is a good example of the interaction of the USSR and the South Pacific staters in the interests of peace and security in the region. We continue to be ready for such cooperation and the unification of efforts in the resolution of the common tasks concerning our countries.

LIGACHEV ADDRESSES VIETNAMESE PARTY CONGRESS

LD151616 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1356 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 15 Dec (TASS) -- Yegor Ligachev, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and head of the CPSU delegation, was warmly received as he delivered a speech at the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress which is taking place here. He said:

Esteemed congress delegates!
Comrades and friends!

The CPSU delegation greets you warmly and cordially on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, all Soviet communists, and all Soviet people. We wish the sixth congress successful and fruitful work in the interests of further strengthening the CPV, in the name of the prosperity of your remarkable homeland and the consolidation of the positions of world socialism.

The Soviet delegation listened with great attention to the introductory speech by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPV Central Committee, which was delivered by esteemed Comrade Truong Chinh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee; and the speech by Vo Van Kiet, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam "On the basic directions and tasks in the economic and social development of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the years 1986-1990." The report is distinguished by a spirit of creativity and realism, of exactness at a high level in the assessment of the path that has been covered, and by a new approach to defining and solving tasks in the further development of socialist Vietnam. We are convinced that the Political Report of the Central Committee and the work and decisions of the congress will open up an important and qualitatively new period in the life of the party and country.

Following the behests of that great Marxist-Leninist and consistent internationalist, Ho Chi Minh, your party has, in a short period of history, and in incredibly difficult conditions, performed an enormous task. Victory in the struggle with the repressors and foreign invaders has brought your country independence and national unity and aroused the world's admiration for the heroic people of Vietnam. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, and relying upon the fraternal support of the countries of the socialist community, the industrious Vietnamese people are building a new society. The foundations are being laid for modern industry; output of agricultural produce is increasing, and the country's defense potential is gaining strength. Science and culture are developing, having absorbed the best traditions of the peoples making up the population of Vietnam.

The party is doing much work to overcome the difficulties and manifestations of stagnation along the path of progress. It is concentrating the attention of communists on existing problems, boldly revealing the miscalculations that have been committed, and restructuring its organizational and cadre work in accordance with the requirements of transformations in the socioeconomic sphere. All its activity is taking place in an atmosphere of responsible criticism and self-criticism and of observance of the principle of looking the truth in the face. This is a characteristic of a truly Marxist-Leninist party. V.I. Lenin used to say that "the party of the revolutionary proletariat is strong enough to criticize itself openly and call error and weakness by their names without beating around the bush."

We are pleased to note that the Vietnam Communists' drive for renewal is in keeping with the spirit of innovation of the 27th CPSU Congress targets. Soviet Communists believe that the realistic decisions you will take will bring the SRV to a new stage in its political and economic development. In order to implement the plans mapped out by the congress for socialist construction and defense of the motherland, it is necessary to raise the discipline of communists, to strengthen the ideological and organizational unity of the party ranks, and to enhance the guiding role of the Communist Party. The importance and the necessity of this is confirmed both by our experience and by your own.

World socialism has now reached the frontier in its development at which qualitatively new, nonstandard solutions to complex problems, seriously restructuring the renewal of all spheres of social life, are required of the Communist Party in order to open up still greater scope for the emergence of the colossal creative possibilities of the socialist system. These problems were the subject of all-round discussions at the working meeting in Moscow of the leaders of the fraternal parties from the 10 countries of socialism. The meeting, marking a turning point in our all-round cooperation, reflected the striving on the part of its participants toward a full and consistent realization of the principles of socialist internationalism, toward strengthening the bases for their unity coupled with the maximum development of initiative and the energy of each party and country.

Now, about matters in our country. The main issue on which the efforts of the Soviet people are now being concentrated is the fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, which adopted the concept of the acceleration of socioeconomic development. This concept is inextricably linked to restructuring and determines the main directions of the activity of the party over a historically long period. The foundation of the strategy of acceleration and the renewal of society is formed by the tremendous achievements of the party and people in transforming what was once a backward capitalist country into a front-ranking powerful state, where political power belongs to the people and everything is done on behalf of the people.

As a result of the implementation of the course elaborated by the party for the acceleration of the country's development, noticeable changes for the better are occurring in Soviet society. Discipline and order are becoming stronger. There has come to be more democracy and openness in the adoption of important decisions. Everywhere there is a desire to get on with practical deeds; the initiative of the working people is being displayed more strongly. The increase in national income and in industrial and agricultural output this year is the greatest in 9 years. Along with the growth of the economy, the sociocultural development of society is being speeded up and the living conditions of Soviet people are improving. The construction of housing and sociocultural amenities is taking place on a greater scale than ever before.

We still have a lot to do, however, to achieve a real acceleration, to push forward scientific and technical progress, to raise the effectiveness of the economic mechanism and to increase the efficiency of social policy and the quality of people's lives. We understand that the greater the transformations, the more active the initiative of working masses should be. Every person should feel himself master in his country, enterprise, and organization. This is what real socialist democracy is all about.

By deepening the principles of democratic centralism, we are striving to strengthen the role of the center in solving the main strategic problems of the development of productive forces and of the entire system of social and production relations, and of the task of strengthening the country's defense capacity. At the same time, we are taking measures to considerably broaden the rights of production units lower down the scale and of all collectives of working people on the basis of financial autonomy, while their responsibility to the state ensuring a harmonious combination of public interests with group and personal interests is growing. These principles require a wide use of both levers of planning and the commodity-money relationship. It would be utterly wrong to think that the implementation of financial autonomy is a kind of return to the forms of business undertaking based on private ownership. Complete financial autonomy penetrating all the links of the national economy is our own socialist device for developing the economy and democracy, and we have not yet learned to use it properly. Yet we must master it in full so as to accelerate our progress.

In embarking on practical implementation of the concept of acceleration, the CPSU gives priority to strengthening considerably the leadership of party, state, and public organizations, both at the center and locally. Cadres are the basis of success in our affairs. The socialist system can deploy all its possibilities only when socioeconomic processes are controlled by people who correctly understand the political line, and who are professionally trained, devoted to the party cause, crystal pure in their honesty, and possess high moral standards.

As experience in building socialism shows, the most reliable guarantee against all manner of subjectivist errors and deviations from the principles underlying the political and economic system of socialism and against infringements of the rules of party and state life is provided by practical mastery of objective social laws, the creative development and application of Marxist-Leninist teaching, together with close links between the party and the broad masses of the working people and encouragement of their initiatives.

We see our main task as being to more fully reveal the enormous potential of socialism. Acceleration of socioeconomic progress in the USSR and in other fraternal states will enhance the authority of real socialism in the world, intensify its power of attraction, and have a sobering effect on aggressive imperialist circles.

We know that the Vietnamese Communists take a great interest in the practice of the building of socialism in the USSR and the restructuring processes we are implementing. We are willing to share with you all the experience accumulated by the Soviet Communists. But, as V.I. Lenin said, there is nothing more important than one's own experience. We are glad to see that the concept you put forward for socioeconomic policy is free of voluntarism and the desire to pass over essential phases of development, and is based on the principles of the building of socialism which have been tested by history. This is a true Marxist-Leninist approach.

We find deep satisfaction in the fact that the whole complex of multifarious Soviet-Vietnamese relations, confirmed by the USSR-SRV Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, is based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, which means both the revolutionary solidarity and the complete independence of our states.

The main force which bonds the friendly relations between our countries is the fraternal alliance of the CPSU and the CPV.

The consistent course for the steady strengthening of the indestructible Soviet-Vietnamese friendship was again demonstrated at the meetings of comrades M.S. Gorbachev and Truong Chinh in August and November 1986, which took place in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding, fraternity, and cordiality.

The summit accords open up a new period of our interaction and an increase in its effectiveness, especially in economic terms. Soviet-Vietnamese economic cooperation is based in an increasingly stable way on realism, taking into account the needs and possibilities of Vietnam at the present new stage.

The development of cooperation with Vietnam is the international duty of all fraternal socialist countries. At the working meeting of the leaders of the fraternal parties in Moscow, a view was expressed on CEMA member-countries drafting a special program concerning the development of the economies of Vietnam, Mongolia, and Cuba. The Soviet Union and our party will do everything expected of us, and will actively work toward the realization of the program.

Our common task is to ensure that each economic and social objective being built in Vietnam with the assistance of the Soviet Union should be made operational on time, produce the greatest returns, and facilitate a speedy resolution to the problems facing Vietnam. It appears that some branches of the light and foodstuffs industries, production facilities for consumer goods, and also direct trading and economic links with regions of Siberia and the Soviet Far East may also become an importance area of our cooperation.

Comrades, your congress is taking place at a complicated and crucial moment in the development of the present-day international situation. Our parties are united in their approach to all the basic questions of world politics.

In the face of mortal danger for the existence of all mankind, the Soviet Union, recognizing its historic responsibility for the destinies of the peoples of the world, placed all its colossal might and enormous authority into serving the cause of preventing nuclear disaster and preserving and consolidating peace on the planet. Approval by the SRV, by the other fraternal countries, and by the world public of the 27th CPSU Congress proposal on setting up an all-embracing system of international security, and of the peace-loving Soviet initiatives aimed at eliminating arsenals of nuclear weapons and against the development [sozdaniye] of strike space armaments, has been received with deep satisfaction in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik, which took place at the proposal of the USSR, has demonstrated clearly that there is a real chance of starting to free mankind from the threat of world nuclear conflagration. At the same time it has also clearly illuminated the main obstacle on this path. The essence of this is the desire of the United States for military superiority, for the possession of more destructive space armaments in order to dictate its own will to the peoples of the world and to force them to obey. To the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests, which has been in existence for almost a year and a half, the U.S. Administration responds with nuclear explosions in Nevada. The United States tries to overturn everything positive that was marked out at Reykjavik, to deceive and to confuse the world public. Such is the will of the U.S. military-industrial complex, for which SDI, the "Star Wars" plan, promises unprecedented profits. And the United States, in no small measure, covers its expenditures on the arms race by exploiting the peoples of the developing countries.

The Delhi declaration on the principles for a nonviolent world, free of nuclear weapons, which was signed recently by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi was such a contrast to this course, this code of morals. The significance of the accords reached during the visit by M.S. Gorbachev to India goes far beyond Soviet-Indian relations. The Soviet program put forward in Vladivostok for safeguarding peace and security and for cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, which is becoming increasingly significant in world politics, was developed further in Gorbachev's addresses.

The USSR is not laying claim to any privileges and is not seeking advantage for itself to the detriment of others. It does not believe in safeguarding its own security at the expense of others. Displays of great power status are organically alien to our policy. As distinct from Washington, we do not knock together militarist groupings. We favor the right of each people to live according to its own choice and to have sovereignty in resolving its problems in conditions of peace and goodneighborliness.

Several new initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during his visit to India were aimed at attaining these aims. They included a proposal on the peaceful mastery of space with all interested states participating, and on the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean.

As regards Southeast Asia, the position of the Soviet Union is clear and easily understood. A solution to the problems of Southeast Asia must be found by the countries in that region themselves on the basis of complete respect for their sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity without outside interference in their internal affairs.

The countries of Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam, have on many occasions been the target of imperialist aggression. They have won their freedom and independence in hard and bloody battles. Their striving for peace and international security is all the more great. Your homeland is making a weighty contribution to this noble cause.

The solidarity of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, their close alliance, is an influential factor for peace and stability in Asia. Allow me to express the conviction that the fraternal countries of Indochina will continue to bear aloft the banner of peace and socialism in this important area of the world.

We welcome the reasoned and just line of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia toward a constructive solution to the problems which exist in Southeast Asia, toward a political settlement of the situation surrounding Cambodia.

An important positive influence on improving the situation in Asia and the international climate as a whole would be exerted by the normalization of Vietnam's relations with China. It is our firm opinion that a solution to this is fully attainable and mutually acceptable on the basis of direct dialogue based on equal rights. We confirm our support for the holding of a Vietnam-China dialogue with the aim of removing unnecessary suspicions and mistrust. The many proposals of the SRV on this subject are well known to all. As for relations between the USSR and the PRC, we have been and are in favor of the development of good-neighborly relations with the PRC on a principled basis without detriment to the interests of other countries.

Comrades! Today we stand on the threshold of a new year, 1987, the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

We are convinced that our joy in this notable jubilee is shared by communists the world over and by all the front-ranking people of the planet. We are convinced that it will be marked by a still greater closing of ranks in the international workers' and communist movement. Our duty is to oppose the alliance of the forces of war and aggression with the international solidarity of communists and with interaction between public movements and organizations, whatever their orientation.

Dear friends! The sixth congress of the glorious party of the Vietnamese Communists will be making important and responsible decisions. It is beyond dispute that the results of the work of the congress will exert a favorable influence on the economic and social development of your heroic country, and on the all-round cooperation of our parties and peoples.

In your noble struggle for the bright future of Socialist Vietnam, you can always depend on the fraternal support of the Soviet people. Let us continue to preserve and strengthen the community of our parties, peoples, and states.

Long live the tested, militant vanguard of the Vietnamese people, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the party of Ho Chi Minh!

LIGACHEV MEETS WITH CAMBODIA'S HENG SAMRIN

LD161357 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi December 16 TASS -- The CPSU delegation led by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, attending the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam met today with the delegation of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea led by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee.

In the course of a cordial friendly meeting both sides have reaffirmed the indomitable will to continue developing and deepening cooperation between the CPSU and the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, the USSR and the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the interests of the peoples of the two countries, of lasting peace in Asia and all over the world.

The Cambodian leader declared full support for the history-making decisions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU, for the Soviet Union's large-scale peace initiatives directed at putting an end to the weapons race, at disarmament and preventing a nuclear catastrophe, as well as the proposals concerning efforts for peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

Solidarity was expressed from the Soviet side with People's Kampuchea's efforts to build a new society, with the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea which consistently works jointly with Vietnam and Laos for turning South-East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and goodneighborliness.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON 12 DEC BERLIN AIR CRASH

Leadership Condoles GDR

LD131931 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent a telegram to Comrade Erich Honecker and Comrade Willi Stoph, leaders of the GDR, with regard to the aircraft accident near Schoenefeld Airport on 12 December that resulted in the loss of life.

The telegram states: We express to you, the families and those close to the deceased, our deep and sincere condolences.

GDR Offers Condolences

PM151347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Condolences on Airliner Crash"]

[Text] Berlin, 14 Dec -- The SED Central Committee, the GDR Council of State, and the GDR Council of Ministers have expressed profound condolences to the families and relatives of those who died as a result of the airliner crash which occurred near Schoenefeld Airport 12 December.

HUNGARY'S LAZAR TO VISIT IN LATE DECEMBER

LD161416 Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- Gyorgy Lazar, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, will pay a working visit to the Soviet Union in the third decade of December at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SFRY'S RENOVICA

'New Big Stride' Made

LD122222 Moscow TASS in English 2158 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 12 TASS -- Follows commentary by Grigoriy Polegayev:

A new big stride has been made in the development of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation. The objective for the future is to cooperate in an even more concerted manner and effectively since the political groundwork has been laid for a further stable development of relations between the two countries.

This has been most convincingly demonstrated by the results of the official friendly visit to the USSR of the delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) led by president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee Milanko Renovica, the talks held with the CPSU Delegation led by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

In the Soviet Union, the Soviet-Yugoslav summit talks are evaluated as common great success, and determination is stressed to develop further friendship and cooperation with socialist Yugoslavia, enrich Soviet-Yugoslav relations with a new content in the interests of the peoples of both countries, the cause of peace and socialism.

An earnest of that is the solid foundation, on which Soviet-Yugoslav relations are developing. They are a closeness of historical destinies and national cultures, the joint fight against fascism and the common aims of development along the socialist path. These are the principles of mutual relations, placed on record in the documents of 1955 and 1956 and in the subsequent joint documents, which have proved effective. The Soviet Union strictly adheres to these principles.

Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation is of an all-embracing character. But no small yet unused reserves were pointed out at the Moscow talks. In the opinon of the sides they are inherent in the introducton of new, progressive forms of economic ties -- broad production and scientific-technical cooperation, a broadening of cultural exchanges and direct communications between the peoples of the two countries.

An important and promising area of cooperation is an exchange of know-how of social development. The Soviet Union treats attentively, in an unbiased manner, the experience of the Yugoslav comrades in socio-political development and, in its turn, value the fact that they in Yugoslavia positively appraise the process of readjustment in all fields of socio-political and eocnomic life in the USSR. The CPSU and the LCY favour a further strengthening of the atmosphere of mutual understanding and trust between the two parties and countries, a respectful attitude to the interests and experience of each other.

The USSR and Yugoslavia cooperate in many key areas of international politics. As the talks between the delegations of the CPSU and LCY have shown, the sides are unanimous in their understanding that at present mankind's most important objective is the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. It is believed in the Soviet Union that an increasing role is to be played in the efforts for a non-nuclear world by such a prestigious and progressive force of the present as the Nonaligned Movement in whose founding Yugoslavia made a big contribution.

Renovica Satisfied With Visit

LD131138 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] On his return home, Milanko Renovica, president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee, expressed profound satisfaction with the results of the LCY delegation's visit to the Soviet Union. During negotiations with a CPSU delegation headed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, conducted in a spirit of friendship and mutual confidence, a thorough exchange of opinions on issues of mutual interest was carried out. It was pointed out that relations between the CPSU and the LCY, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, which are founded upon the principles of the jointly accepted documents, have reached a high level.

During the meetings, Renovica declared, there was confirmation of our mutual confidence that greater opportunities exist for further development and enrichment of relations between the two parties and countries, for cooperation between both sides.

NAVAL DETACHMENT VISIT TO GREECE ASSESSED

PM161447 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Captain First Rank S. Bystrov: "The Golden Lance of Athene"]

[Excerpts] In November of this year a detachment of Soviet warships consisting of the missile cruiser "Slava" and the large ASW ship "Komsomolets Ukrainy" under the flag of Admiral M. Khronopulo, commander of the Black Sea Fleet, paid an official friendly visit to the Greek port of Piraeus. We are publishing our correspondent's notes on this visit. [passage omitted]

Several days before our vessels arrived in Piraeus, many Greek newspapers informed their readers of the forthcoming visit. They followed this up with systematic coverage. RIZOSPASTIS, the organ of the Greek Communist Party, published an item under the heading "Soviet Ships Are Emissaries of Peace." The newspaper ATHENS NEWS wrote: "It is almost 10 years since a Soviet squadron with a full admiral on board last visited Greece. 'These visits are infrequent, but when they take place the have great significance,' diplomats say."

It was hard for us to judge what the diplomats said, but the tens of thousands of Greeks who visited the "Slava" and the "Komsomolets Ukrainy" did not hide their opinions. One in eight of them left his signature in the visitors book. And every Greek word translated into Russian was imbued with sincere goodwill. [passage omitted]

I have had occasion to take part in several such visits to European countries. The Soviet seamen have usually been given a particularly warm welcome by elderly people -- those who lived through World War II and were involved in the struggle against fascism. Young people, on the other hand, more often simply showed a restrained curiosity. But the young Greeks openly expressed their liking for us -- this showed the good future in store for the traditionally friendly relations between our peoples. [passage omitted]

Young Greeks take an active part in the Greek people's movement for the elimination of foreign military bases and Greece's withdrawal from NATO. The National Committee for the Struggle to Eliminate Foreign Military Bases stopped U.S. 6th Fleet ships from mooring in the roads off Piraeus. Following the people's will, the Greek government has refused to take part in Washington's Strategic Defense Initiative, its anti-Polish, anti-Libyan, and anti-Syrian campaigns, and the modernization of American nuclear weapons on Greek territory, as well as in the "Display Determination" exercises... [passage omitted]

Greece well remembers M.S. Gorbachev's words in his reply to the message from the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden, and Tanzania proposing a new, specific initiative on ending nuclear weapon tests: "...the task of preserving human civilization and not allowing it to burn in the flames of a nuclear catastrophe is a task common to all states and all peoples." [passage omitted]

When Soviet ships visited Greece in 1978 our trade turnover with that country amounted to 400 million dollars. At the time of a second visit in 1983 it had reached 650 million dollars. Today it is over 1 billion dollars.

Orders from USSR foreign trade firms guarantee work for 130,000 Greeks. The importance of this is evidenced by the fate of the "Hellenic Shipyard." The private owner closed it down in February 1985 as unprofitable. The state bought up the enterprise and reopened it in September, thereby providing employment for almost 4,000 people. Its first order was to overhaul the Soviet vessel "Kavkaz." The shipyard has now started on its largest order -- to build four refrigerator ships of 4,800 tons each for the Soviet Union. It has already begun cutting out the sheet metal. Sevdalis Vasilios, 44-year-old manager of the shipyard (he was recently in Moscow), said that this shipyard, the largest in the eastern Mediterranean, has begun making a profit for the first time in several years. [passage omitted]

Not without reason did F. Engels once say that "the Greeks...regard Russia as their natural patron." This is true -- and they have repaid us for it, particularly in times of difficulty. The Greek Government was one of the first to recognize the Soviet Union. When Hitler's hordes descended on the USSR, a movement arose in Greece in support of the Soviet people's struggle, and the resistance movement that existed in Greece caused the Hitlerite occupationists appreciable losses.

Old Greeks showed up their resistance movement badges with special pride; small, modest, resembling a drop of blood. Yes, time takes its toll, and veterans of the struggle against fascism are today like drops in the ocean among the younger generations. But they have not disappeared. These badges were also shown us by quite young Greeks who had inherited them from their parents.

It goes without saying that not everything is as straightforward in the parliamentary republic of Greece as it may have seemed during our visit of a few days. The country has its own contradictions and its increasingly intense struggle between progressive and conservative forces. Without knowing the language and without reading the newspapers this could be felt even in the "warring" slogans on the walls: Every color denoted a particular party, and among the great diversity there would always be red.

Knowing where Athens lay, as we left we looked in the direction of the tall Acropolis. The ship's powerful optics "ate up" the distance -- and the eternal Parthenon with its columns came clearly into view. The seafarers of old, of course, would not have been able to see it from this distance. But the Acropolis had its own beacon for them: the majestic statue of Athene (the work of Phidias) with her golden lance. Reflecting the sun, it reliably showed them the way. Greece's foreign policy is the most realistic of all the NATO countries and is today a guiding light for peoples being urgently deflected from a politically forward-looking course by American militarism.

...They say that even on visits people particularly remember the last words spoken. Saying goodbye to the commander of the Soviet naval detachment, the Greek Navy commander said: "I met an admiral and I am saying goodbye to a friend."

RYZHKOV TO VISIT FINLAND 'FIRST HALF OF JANUARY'

LD170810 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, will pay an official visit to Finland in the first half of January. He was invited by Mauno Koivisto, president of the Republic of Finland, and by the government of the country.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF LIBYA'S MANSUR

Talks With Gromyko

LD161721 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1633 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- Despite the high waves in the postwar ocean of international life, and despite the fact that the imperialist circles have tried to use them in order to swamp our position [zakhlestnut nashu s vami pozitsiyu] in the principled questions of the struggle for peace, this position has, nevertheless, shown its sense of function and strength and is an attractive one for all peoples. Relations between the Soviet Union and Libya are at a high level, and both countries are fully determined to raise it even higher -- that was how A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, described the present state of Soviet-Libyan relations.

This was stated on 16 December in the Kremlin, when he received Kamil Hasan Mansur, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Relations (minister of foreign affairs) of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who is in the Soviet Union on an official, friendly visit.

In the course of the meeting, which passed in a warm and frank [oktrovennoy] atmosphere, the two speakers discussed a wide circle of issues of mutual interest.

A.A. Gromyko told about the work of the Soviet people on the implementation of the strategy on acceleration of socioeconomic development, which was worked out by the 27th CPSU Congress, about the restructuring in all spheres of social and state life under way in the country, and about the measures of improving socialist democracy.

The attention of K.H. Mansur was drawn to the presistent and wide efforts of the USSR aimed at ridding the planet of the threat of nuclear war in the speediest possible way, the demilitarization of space, strengthening mutual understanding between states, and creating a comprehensive system of international security, including in the Mediterranean.

It was stressed from the Soviet side that a complicated situation had arisen in the world which had posed the age-old question in all it magnitude: To be or not to be? Only now it applies to the whole of mankind and its demands from everyone -- and primarily from statemen -- not stereotyped but new political thinking. It was an understanding of what would seem a simple but harsh truth that dictated the Soviet initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the Reykjavik meeting. His approach at the recent summit talks in Delhi was also permeated with this philosophy of peace.

It is truly deplorable that those people in Washington -- who, it would seem, should carry their share of responsibility and a large share, at that, for the fate of the world -- are continuing to cling to the dilapidated dogmas of the prenuclear age.

The Soviet Union, A.A. Gromyko stressed, will not be found wanting in determination to continue purposefully to try to achieve a radical change for the better in international affairs. All the Soviet initiatives and proposals on matters relating to averting the threat of war and to maintaing peace are directed toward this end. But no one should draw the wrong conclusions from our peaceableness. Illusions of this sort can lead to a false path fraught with serious political miscalculations incurring grave consequences.

K.H. Mansur declared that the purposeful foreign policy of the Soviet state is highly esteemed in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The USSR's proposals accord with the vital interests of all peoples and all states, regardless of the differences of opinion existing between them. The Libyan guest advocated expansion of cooperation between the socialist and nonaligned countries in the struggle to establish in international relations the principles of peace free from nuclear weapons and violence.

During the conversation deep concern was expressed over the fact that the imperialist circles are continuing to exacerbate regional tension and to interfere in the internal affairs of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The United States' hostile campaigns against Libya and Syria had become an example of this neoglobalist policy.

The Soviet side reaffirmed our people's solidarity with these Arab states, who are courageously upholding their freedom and independence and opposing the dangerous intrigues of the forces of imperialism in Africa and the Near East, and neocolonialism.

A.A. Gromyko and K.H. Mansur expresed their common and grave concern over the fact that the protracted Iran-Iraq military conflict had still not managed to be steered onto channels of a political settlement.

The Soviet Union's principled position is a position of support for the struggle of the Arabs for their rights and for a just peace in the region, the guest noted, and it evokes the sincere gratitude of the people and the leadership of the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

During discussion of various aspects of friendly Soviet-Libyan relations, both sides reaffirmed their readiness to continue to assist their all-round consolidation in various fields to the benefit of the peoples of the countries and in the interests of strengthening peace.

Present during the conversation were Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs; P.S. Akopov, USSR ambassador to Libya; and Muhammad Husni Sha'ban, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau (ambassador) in the USSR.

Mansur Departs 16 Dec

LD161843 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1735 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Dec (TASS) -- Kamil Hassan Mansur, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left the Soviet Union today. He was in the USSR on an official friendly visit.

In an interview to a TASS correspondent before his departure by air, the Libyan guest described the negotiations and meetings with Soviet leaders as useful and fruitful. Discussion of a wide range of problems confirmed anew the unity and proximity of positions of the two countries in their evaluation of the international situation, the aspirations of Libya and the Soviet Union to further develop political dialogue, and their firm adherence to the cause of peace, independence, and social progress, Kamil Hasan Mansur stated.

IRANIAN CRITICISM OF MASS MEDIA 'SURPRISING'

NC141326 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The UN Security Council has unanimously approved a resolution which expresses deep concern at the exacerbation of the Iran-Iraq war. The UN Security Council members have appealed to both sides to refrain from any operation which might threaten navigation in the region. They have called on the two countries to work for rapprochment to achieve a political solution to the problem.

This resolution is very timely. While the conflict between the two combatants is intensifying daily, Tehran has announced its readiness to continue the war indefinitely. It has mobilized almost two-thirds of Iran's population for this purpose. The supporters of war until victory emphasize that their belligerent and irreconcilable stand will not obstruct the strengthening of Iran's international esteem. In this regard, they point to McFarlane's recent visit to Tehran. Washington's Iranian operation, however, clearly shows that the efforts made by the White House to improve its relations with Tehran are in no way based on the principle of respect for Iran's national sovereignty. On the contrary, they are based on attempts to escalate the activities of its fifth column in Iran and to further protract the Iran-Iraq war.

The continuation of war until victory fully satisfies the interests of Washington's programs. The remarks made by those who support this policy, in which they seemingly invite Washington to intervene in this war more actively, also meet the requirements of these programs. For example, what is meant by the statement that Tehran will agree to a replacement of Iraq's current regime with any other regime, even a pro-U.S. one? How can one assess the reasoning behind the statement that Iran will never carry out an arms deal with Israel but that it does not oppose such collusion with the United States? Those who think in such a way must surely believe that U.S. imperialism is more respectable than Zionism. However, this is a half-baked idea. Although the United States has not committed acts of aggression directly against Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, it has nevertheless been the encourager and mentor of the Israeli aggressor. There have been cases when the United States itself has been the aggressor. It is sufficient to recall the 1980 U.S. descent in the Iranian desert, its attack against Libya, and the shelling of the Lebanese capital by the U.S. warship "New Jersey." A further look at the general international scene will only serve to augment this list.

These examples do not prove either the respectability of U.S. imperialism or the correctness of the pretexts used by those who participated in the collusion of the U.S. arms deal. In light of this, the efforts made by some officials in Tehran to teach a lesson of ethics to the Soviet mass media are surprising. These officials want to tell the Soviet media how it should report the facts revealed about the dispatch of arms to Iran following McFarlane's visit to that country. Instead of portraying these facts as Iran's wish to prolong the war at the behest of America, they say that the Soviet media should have taken them as a sign of victory achieved by a developing country.

However, the Soviet mass media does not report events on orders from abroad. The Soviet media has objectively reported world reaction to the U.S. arms deal with Iran. We can see that these reports are not disseminated in most countries in a way desired by those who support the idea of protracting the Iran-Iraq war until victory. The opinion expressed by the Soviet public is one which prevails in most countries: Namely, that Iran's real victory would be an immediate end to the war with Iraq and the commencement of talks for a just solution to the conflict.

NEW KAZAKHSTAN CP FIRST SECRETARY PROFILED

LD161304 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Alma Ata December 16 TASS -- The Central Committe of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan held an organizational plenum today.

Gennadiy Kolbin, 59, who earlier worked as first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Regional CPSU Committee, was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in that Soviet Asian Republic with a population of about 16 million.

The plenum relieved Dinmukhammed Kunayev of the duties of first secretary of the Central Committee due to retirement at his request.

Kolbin began work at a factory at the age of 15 during the grim years of the Second World War. It was the time when the fate of the world's first socialist state was decided through the collective effort of all and everyone.

Nearly twenty years of factory work helped shape Kolbin's high business, moral and political qualities. In 1959 he was elected secretary of the factory party organization.

Ever since that time he has been doing party work at the district, city and regional party committees.

In 1975 Kolbin was elected second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, and in 1983 became first secretary of the Ulyanovsk Regional CPSU Committee.

Kolbin was repeatedly elected to the USSR Supreme Soviet. He is a member of the CPSU Central Committee.

UKRAINIAN CP CC HOLDS PLENUM 8 DECEMBER

AU170849 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 9 Dec 86 p 1

["Report on a Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] A plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee was held on 8 December.

Oblispolkom chairman, obkom secretaries in charge of problems concerning the agro-industrial complex, chairmen of oblast agro-industrial committees, and leaders of a number of republic-level organizations were invited to participate in the plenum proceedings.

The plenum examined the following items:

1. The tasks of the republic's party organization in implementing the CPSU Central Committee decision on the work performed by the party, administrative, and economic organs of the Ukrainian SSR to increase the production and purchases of grain in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress.

2. The progress made in carrying out the organizational and political measures drawn up by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses.

A.P. Lyashko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman, delivered a report on the first item.

Those participating in the debate were: V.S. Makarenko, Crimean Obkom first secretary; F.T. Morgun, Poltava Obkom first secretary; Yu.P. Babich, Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom chairman; G.I. Revenko, Kiev Obkom first secretary; N.S. Sabadash, field cropping brigade leader at the Kirov kolkhoz in Chemerovetskiy Rayon, Khmelnitskiy Oblast; V.I. Zheliba, Kirovograd Olbispolkom chairman; I.F. Kalantay, Kharkov Obkom secretary; S.A. Tislitskaya, Podillya kolkhoz chairman in Ternopolskiy Rayon, Ternopol Oblast; V.I. Ilyin, Nikolayev Oblispolkom chairman; V.A. Makhlay, Kakhovka Gorkom first secretary in Kherson Oblast; L.L. Krivoruchko, Vinnitsa Obkom first secretary; V.G. Veretelnik, Zaporozhye Oblispolkom first deputy chairman; Yu.A. Kolomiyets, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman and chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee; V.S. Tsikov, director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Corn under the All-Union Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Dnepropetrosk city; I.K. Lutak, Cherkassy Obkom first secretary; and I.I. Shmatolyan, Ukrainian minister of grain products.

The plenum listened to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo's report on the progress made in carrying out the organizational and political measures drawn up by the Ukrainian communist Party Central Committee to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses. The report on this item was delivered by A.A. Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee second secretary.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, delivered a speech at the plenum.

The plenum adopted decisions on the issues examined.

Participating in the plenum proceedings were F.P. Senko, chief of the Agriculture and Food Industry Department in the CPSU Central Committee; N.N. Kovalenko, sector chief in the aforesaid department; and V.K. Lavrov, instructor of the Organizational Party Work Department in the CPSU Central Committee.

RAZUMOVSKIY READS CPSU GREETINGS TO VETERANS

LD171227 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] The constituent conference of the All-Union Organization of Labor and War Veterans opened today in the Columned Hall of the House of Unions. Those assembled welcomed with warm applause the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the conference's participants, which was read out by the chairman of the organizational committee, Comrade Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He delivered a report on the tasks and basic directions in the activity of the All-Union Organization of Labor and War Veterans.

VOROTNIKOV ATTENDS SOIREE HONORING CHOIR

LD162317 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] A festive soiree, which was held today in the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, was devoted to the 50th anniversary of the State Labor Red Banner-bearing Academic Russian Choir of the USSR. [passage omitted] Comrade Vorotnikov was present at the soiree.

BELORUSSIAN PRICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

LD171156 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belorussian 6 Dec 86 p 1

[Summary] The Belorussian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

To appoint Comrade Sergey Stepanovich Ling as chairman of the State Committee on Prices of the Belorussian SSR.

Comrade S. Ling is a Belorussian, born in 1937. Up until now he worked as chairman of the Minsk Oblispolkom.

BLACK SEA DISASTER RESULTS IN PARTY REPRIMANDS

PM161237 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Nov 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Moscow CPSU Gorkom"]

[Text] At its latest session the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau has discussed a report by Perovskiy CPSU Raykom on the restructuring of the party raykom's work with ideological cadres and the enhancement of their role in resolving questions concerning the rayon's socioeconomic development in line with the 27th CPSU Congress demands.

It was emphasized that the raykom and many party committees have not abandoned attempts to implement the revolutionary tasks of restructuring ideological education work by using obsolete methods. Neither a fundamental restructuring of the style of the activity of agitation and propaganda cadres nor the necessary qualitative renewal of their composition have taken place. The measures being taken for the selection and further training of ideological cadres do not meet the party congress stipulations. Comrade S.A. Trofimova, CPSU raykom secretary in charge of ideological work questions, was seriously rebuked.

The CPSU raykom was ordered to eliminate the shortcomings noted by the Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau. A report on measures taken to restructure work with ideological cadres is to be submitted on the basis of the results of the first 6 months of 1987.

In accordance with instructions from the CPSU Central Committee, the party gorkom bureau examined the question of the responsibility of some leading workers from the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and the AUCCTU Central Council for Tourism and Excursions in connection with the accident involving the liner "Admiral Nakhimov." The bureau noted that leaders of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet tolerate major shortcomings in work with cadres and in ensuring navigation safety and preventing accidents at sea. The AUCCTU Central Council for Tourism and Excursions commits gross violations of established procedures for sales of tourist travel vouchers and the organization of sea cruises. Severe reprimands with endorsement of Communists' service records were issued against Comrade Guzhenko, former minister of the maritime fleet; Comrade Kuznetsov, chief of the ministry's Main Cadres Admininistration; Comrade Shchegolev, deputy chief of the ministry's Main Cadres Administration; and Comrade Oshcherin, deputy chairman of the "Morpasflot" All-Union Association. Reprimands with endorsement of Communists' service records were issued against Comrade Sukhov, chief of the Sea Navigation Inspectorate, and Comrade Abukov, chairman of the AUCCTU Central Council for Tourism and Excursions. Comrade Leontyev, deputy chairman of the "Moreplavaniye" All-Union Association, was severely reprimanded.

The Moscow CPSU Gorkom Bureau also examined materials concerning messages and appeals by Communists. It confirmed decisions on the expulsion from the party of those who have abused alcoholic drink or committed illegal and immoral acts incompatible with belonging to the CPSU ranks, and also of those who have been expelled from the party for having committed criminal acts.

For example, O.I. Kuznetsov, senior scientific associate of the Moscow Petroleum and Gas Institute, was not reinstated to the party ranks; when scientific secretary of a specialized council at the institute he assisted a competitor in obtaining a scientific degree by fraud.

The Bureau turned down an appeal by V.V. Zavadskiy, associate of the Main Civil Aviation Computer Center, who was expelled from the party by Frunzenskiy CPSU Raykom for immoral behavior in daily life, malicious breaches of passport regulations, repeatedly selling motor vehicles to selected purchasers, and insincerity in the examination of a personal case.

The party Gorkom Bureau session also examined some other questions.

NEWS BRIEFING HELD ON CHERNOBYL CLEANUP

PM161631 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent N. Baklanov report: "The Station Is Coming Back to Life; News Conference at the Chernobyl AES"]

[Text] Kiev -- A news conference devoted to the completion of a particularly important stage -- the commissioning of the protective structures of the No 4 unit -- in the elimination of the consequences of the accident was held at the Chernobyl AES.

Many of the representatives of central and republican newspapers and television and radio had been here many times before and remember well what the station looked like after the destruction of the No 4 reactor. They were all the more impressed by the current appearance of the AES.

Quite recently, when the first power unit was started up, both journalists and servicing personnel never forgot their breathing apparatus when moving around the station. Now it is no longer necessary to use these protective appliances -- we are walking down gleaming corridors and passages with new wall and floor coverings. After thorough decontamination, it is clean here not just in the literal sense of the word but also in terms of radiation. Since its revival, the station has already produced more than 1.6 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

After an inspection of the station, a government commission spokesman, the AES managers, scientists, medical staff, and party and trade union officials answered journalists' questions.

"Now that Nos 1 and 2 power units have been connected to the national power grid and the safe entombment of the remains of the No 4 reactor has been completed, virtually normal operating conditions have been restored," E. Pozdyshev, director of the Chernobyl AES, said in his statement. "A full staff has been recruited, and our people are working 15-day tours of duty. That means that they are spending 15 days in the well-appointed Zelenyy Mys settlement designed for more than 3,500 inhabitants and then as many days again resting in Kiev where their families have been allocated apartments.

"I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize that we are paying paramount attention to social questions. The children of our staff have been assigned places in kindergartens and creches and enrolled in shcools, jobs have ben found for the women. A sports hall and a swimming pool have been rented for our staff in Kiev, people have the opportunity to obtain tickets for all shows and concerts currently taking place in the city, and tourist trips are being organized for them during their free time. All this makes it possible to maintain our staff's ability to work at the high standard required."

Describing the "sarcophagus" in which the remains of the damaged power unit are entimbed, V. Shikalov, a scientist from the I.V. Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute, noted the complex nature of this engineering installation which is equipped with an efficinet ventilation and filter system and fitted with unique systems to monitor parameters with the help of modern computer equipment. The processes taking place inside the damaged reactor are under constant surveillance and experts are convinced that the level of radioactivity will decrease all the time.

A. Shekhovtsev, a spokesman for the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control said in answer to a question about background radiation at the station and the surrounding area that thanks to the natural decay of radionuclides, active decontamination measures, and the entombment of the remains of the damaged reactor, background radiation has decreased by a factor of 10-12 in comparison with mid-May.

As for Kiev, the situation is virtually back to normal. The level of radiation is close to the background radiation values prior to accident and on a par with values characteristic of many major cities such as Moscow and Leningrad.

Speaking about the possibility of the resumption of the use of land in the 30-km zone for agricultural purposes, N. Arkhipov, head of a laboratory of the State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, noted that such a possibility exists. Experts of the State Committee and the agro-industrial committees carried out extensive work to assess the level of the soil's contamination with the slowly decaying elements of caesium and strontium. It was established that over most of the territory of the 30-km zone it would be possible to obtain agricultural produce which would be within the safety limits specified by the medical profession. On experimental fields which had been plowed so as to ensure that the radionuclides are buried several tens of centimeters deep, outside the reach of the plants' root system, the green matter obtained was a hundred times "cleaner" than that grown on neighboring fields.

"Following the completion of the entombment of the remains of the damaged reactor, which is now hidden behind thick concrete walls and metal structures, work is in full swing on preparations for the startup of the No 3 unit," V. Zhmurko, member of the government commission noted when summing up the press conference. "At the same time, the station's entire site is being prepared for the construction of Nos 5 and 6 units. Preliminary work is also under way for the construction of Slavutich -- a new power workers' city in Chernigov Oblast: Goods are being shipped in an the river port is being developed. Active decontamination measures continue to be implemented in Chernobyl where currently 3,000 people from among those construction workers temporarily released by various establishments and organizations and who are helping to operate the tour-of-duty system are housed and in Pripyat where the background radiation has decreased to such an extend that we are planning, in the near future, to utilize some of the buildings to service the station. In short, it can be said with confidence that the entire impressive range of work planned for this year will be successfully carried out.

ANTI-EPIDEMIC PRECAUTIONS IN PRIPYAT DETAILED

AU162132 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Dec 86 p 4

[Yu. Vilenskiy report: "A Shield Against Surprises -- Sanitary Operations in Pripyat"]

[Excerpts] G.H. Gladov, deputy chief physician of the Kiev Oblast sanitary and epidemiological station, and I bent over a map of Pripyat city. There were the outlines of the residential districts, of the adminstrative center, and of the hospital complex. The sheet was full of marks. It was evident that the map was in daily use. For a month the map was used as a guide in preventive sanitary operations carried out in the city. Broad disinfection measures were taken at the order of the government commission for eliminating the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

"Although these districts have been preserved and their habitual life has come to a standstill," V.V. Malashevskiy, chief physician of the oblast sanitary and epidemiological station and Honored Physician of the Ukranian SSR, said, "this did not mean that anti-epidemic measures were superfluous here. On the contrary, the existence of garbage and foodstuff remains in the houses provided rodents and insects with conditions for reproduction. Obviously, if no one interfered in these processes, foci of infection might have originated. This ecological precaution had to be taken. As soon as the level of the radiation background allowed -- as a result of the decontamination which was carried out -- to switch over to measures preventing epidemics, these measures were taken." [passage omitted]

"There are people who continue to work in Pripyat: at the AES, in the headquarters of city organizations, at laundry facilities, A.I. Avramenko, chief of the Kiev Oblast health service section, concluded. "There are plans for scientific research works, and the radiation situation permits the question to be raised of accommodating fields shifts in some district of the city. But, taking into account the unusual nature of what happened, it ws necessary to provide a comprehensive shield against any dangers of infection, against any surprise. Precisely such work guaranteeing stable anti-epidemic conditions has been completed recently in Pripyat city."

OFFICIALS DISCUSS STATE ACCEPTANCE SERVICE

LD161441 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 15 December carries the "Problems, Search, Solutions" program lasting for 96 minutes. The program is chaired by L.A. Voznesenskiy and the other participants are: I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers' Bureau of Machine-Building, A.Ya. Yefimov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee on Standards. Vosnesenskiy apologizes for the absence of G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of Ulyanovsk Obkom, who, he says, cannot be present for good reasons.

The majority of the questions and answers concern what the new State Acceptance Service is, the areas it covers and how it fits in at the factory alongside the old quality control departments. Most of the answers stem from published resolutions and the legislation defining the role of the State Acceptance Service and the responsibilities of those who produce shoddy goods.

After explanations of the nature and role of the State Acceptance Service in improving quality, a viewer's question concerning competititon is dealt with. Voznesenskiy says: We have received a very interesting question from Kiev, from Comrade (Dlugach): It is well known that quality is the result of competition -- please take note of the way this is put -- can state acceptance, which is based on subjective evaluations, raise the quality of our output to world standards? Georgiy Dmitriyevich, please." Kolmogorov answers: "The question is quite interesting and, I think, a correct one. However, I would like to say that in the process of checking the quality of products manufactured there are not only subjective methods of evaluation, but there are also objective methods of evaluation. And so, the question is correct in the fact that in our country we do not up to today have competition. And when we have centralized planning and centralized distribution, and an absence of competition in the country for the manufacture of products, then indeed the way the question of organizing state acceptance in the country is posed, is timely and is an obligatory question, because the people who are going to work in the State Acceptance Service are impartial. They are not bound by their pay or by any other issues; they are protecting only state interests, and so, precise work by state acceptance staff, with objective methods to assess quality of production, will play its part, and in the near future; just as the task is posed by the party and by the 27th congress that during this 5-year plan we must reach world standards for all machinery and products."

The panel then describe changes in regulations for pay for quality-control department staff.

Voznesenskiy then continues: "Aleksandr Vladimirovich Kulikov, a lawyer, asks: Is state acceptance to be extended to enterprises producing consumer goods? Avenir Yakovlevich."

Yefimov replies: "Just like all industries; in particular industries producing consumer goods are also involved and will have state acceptance. In particular, from 1 January state acceptance will be introduced at 64 enterprises of the Ministry of Light Industry, on a very wide geographical scale, in all union republics and in all subindustries of the Ministry of Light Industry."

Voznesenskiy reads out a question concerning the world standard which Soviet products are often compared to; Kolmogorov replies, explaining that there exist international standards such as those drafted by international electrical engineering bodies and the CEMA. Silayev adds: "I would like to add that as I see it, there is a double meaning for world standards. First of all, there are what we can call generalized ones, that is, one could understand by this 'at the best level.' At the same time, there is a practical sense for such an expression, because in a number of advanced countries, Japan for example, standards are worded out in advance for new products, and with strict demands, which are, let us suppose, ahead of the present state and compel development engineers to achieve high standards. Here we also plan to review standards -- we will do it shortly -- which will pull up the development people, and bring them up to the highest standards. So there is both a direct and figurative meaning in world standard."

Kolmogorov expands further on the relationship between international standards and the USSR's state standards.

Voznesenskiy continues: "We have received a number of questions concerning the evident lack of checking and measurement apparatus for the new teams being created in the shape of state acceptance. Who is to blame, and what is planned in order to eliminate this gap?"

Silayev answers: "Indeed, the introduction of state acceptance bodies, even as preliminary measure, has posed acutely the question of the need to equip our technological processes with modern measurement equipment, from the simplest to the most complicated modern electronic equipment. We have a program in this area, through the Ministry of Machine-Tool Building and the Ministry of Instrument Building, according to which the development and production of this equipment is to proceed quickly. However, now that such an acute need has come to light, we shall think of augmenting this program in order to considerably increase production of such instruments and apparatus, although the enterprises themselves ought to do a great deal as far as putting exisitng facilities into good order is concerned, and second should participate in implementing this program for accelerated and increased production of means of measurement."

The panel then answer questions on how quality marks are awarded to products, and on improving quality of project documentation.

Voznesenskiy says: "I have passed on to Avenir Yakovlevich quite a few questions concerned with quality of consumer goods, and amongst them there are quite a lot of questions concerning whether state acceptance is to be introduced at enterprises of the Food Ministry."

Yefimov replies: "For the time being we do not plan to have state acceptance at food enterprises. The experience we shall gather during 1987 will show us some things, and evidently the time will come for state acceptance to be brought in at food enterprises, but not at the moment." Yefimov says there also questions about whether state acceptance is to be brought in for consumer services: "State acceptance will not be introduced in the services sphere from 1 Janury next year, but at the moment a document is being drafted on improvements in planning and in economic managment in the service sphere. In particular, there is a change in the principles and demands on staff of consumer services; the main criterion, of course, remains, it is quality of service and the time taken. Furthermore it is envisaged that payment for services will be taken only once the service has been given. That is, all these facts go to show that economic levers will also be in operation here."

Winding up the program, Voznesenskiy lets each of the others reply to some of the questions he has passed them earlier:

Yefimov elaborates: "There is a large number of questions coming in concerning quality of televisions and refrigerators. In fact, talking about color televisions, over January to September, almost two-thirds of color televisions made by enterprises of the Ministry of the Radio Industry have been returned or repaired under warranty. There is also a large number of questions for the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry and the Ministry of General Machine-Building. Hence the question which viewers raise about increasing the guarantee period and drastically improving quality of televisions is perfectly justified, and the introduction of state acceptance at enterprises producing complex radio equipment will,of course, make it possible to ensure greater advances in improving production quality of such expensive goods which have a painful effect on the mood of our working people."

Silayev and Voznesenskiy bring the program to a close with lengthy exhortations for all and everything to be ready for wider introduction of state acceptance, so that people will no longer have to put up with poor-quality products.

PRAVDA ASSESSES JAN-NOV INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE

PM160939 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "All-union Competition Diary" report under general heading "Completing the Labor Year": "Industry"]

[Text] It was still November according to the calendar, but many production front-rankers had already entered the first month of the 5-year plan's second year. The team led by Hero of Socialist Labor A. Obukhov from the "Anadyrskaya" Mine of the "Severovostokugol" Association brought more than 325,000 metric tons of coal to the surface and fulfilled its plan ahead of schedule. The Komsomol youth team led by S. Spesivtsev from the "Omskshina" Association has been credited with more than 10,000 tires in addition to its targets, while the "Uzenneft" Association's collective (Kazakh SSR) has drilled 264 wells since January, thus completing its annual plan. Many collectives in different sectors of the national economy haave successfully coped with their plans.

At the same time a number of union republics and ministries failed to cope with their sales plan in November. Many associations and enterprises in the machine building complex worked in an unsatisfactory fashion, and output growth in the sector worked in an unsatisfactory fashion, and output growth in the sector was considerably lower than planned in November.

On the whole, according to USSR Central Statistical Administration data, the total volume of industrial output in January-November increased by 4.9 percent compared with the corresponding period last year. Labor productivity in the same period increased by 4.6 percent. The output sales plan, taking into account delivery commitments, was fulfilled 98.8 percent, which is somewhat higher than in the first 11 months of last year. But almost one-third of associations and enterprises failed to cope with their commitments. There were delivery shortfalls of output worth R7.6 billion rubles. The greatest lag in terms of this indicator was allowed to occur in the Ministry of the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Applicances, and the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry.

In the fuel and energy complex sector, the volume of output increased by 4 percent during the first 11 months. The gas industry achieved the highest rate of development - 8 percent growth. Coal extraction targets were met and exceeded. Extraction figures by petroleum industry workers reached the planned level as from September.

Ferrous metallurgy fulfilled its targets for the output of basic types of metal products. Additional output amounted to 0.8 million metric tons of finished rolled metal and 3.9 million meters of pipes. At the same time, a lag is emerging in the production of highly efficient types of metals. Fewer cast billets from continuous casting machines, less electric steel, and fewer high-strength drilling pipes were produced than planned.

A substantial lag was allowed to occur in machine building as regards a number of types of advanced equipment. Output was less than planned as regards the production of: diesel generators for large-capacity dump trucks by the Ministry of Power Machine Building; two-section diesel freight locomotives by the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, electric motors of a new standard series by the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry; and new generation centrifugal pumps by the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building. [paragraph continues]

Unevenness of work still has not been eliminated in machine building complex sectors.

The chemical and timber industry complex's indebtedness increased as regards the output of synthetic ammonia, resins and plastics, and mineral fertilizers. In January [as published] the plan for the output of commercial lumber and sawn timber was not fulfilled.

Particular attention must be paid today to the performance of contractual obligations. Accurate observance of deliveries is the guarantee of successful work by partner enterprises. An example of high standards of discipline has been set by the "Polimir" Associaton in Novopolotsk, where output is shipped out strictly on schedule. The experience of this enterprise, and of many others as well, indicates that every plant and factory is capable of 100-percent delivery performance.

TASS EXPLAINS NEW FOREIGN TRADE REGULATIONS

LD161913 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 16 TASS -- TASS economic analyst Boris Bubnov writes:

The Soviet Union launches measures to improve the management of foreign economic relations, starting with January 1, 1987. Their aim is to bring the scale, structure and the form of Soviet foreign economic relations in line with requirements to intensify the Soviet economy and accelerate scientific and technical progress.

The measures to be taken are to change the situation when disconnection between industry and foreign trade negatively affected Soviet foreign economic operations. Industrial enterprises and amalgamations were actually barred from participating in them. This lessened their interest in expanding the export potential and broad transition to scientific, technical and production cooperation and, eventually, was one of the reasons for the fact that the Soviet share in the world trade did not conform to the USSR's level of economic development.

Improvement of the management of Soviet foreign economic relations is a component part of the general reorganization of the country's entire economic mechanism, the transition of industrial amalgamations and enterprises to full cost-accounting, self-repayment and self-financing, which will promote their interest in raising quantity and quality of goods, accelerated introduction of new scientific and technical development studies and raising profitability of production.

Under this policy 21 Soviet ministries and departments, as well as over 70 major industrial amalgamations and enterprises have got the right to direct access to foreign markets. Most of them export their goods in great quantities or have good relations with foreign partners in scientific, technical and industrial cooperation.

By the beginning of 1987 the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry and the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations will be reorganized, and some of their functions will be transferred to sectoral ministries.

Foreign trade associations and firms operating on the pay-your-own-way basis are being set up within ministries and enterprises which obtained the right directly to conduct export-import operations.

It is envisaged to step up direct ties of Soviet associations, enterprises and organisations with partners in CMEA countries, A large-scale transition will be effected from the simple forms of these ties such as sharing experience, exchanging information, production forms and records and delegations of specialists to cooperation and pooling efforts in research and co-production.

The State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers was set up and vigorously operates. It will manage and coordinate the activity of all Soviet ministries, departments and enterprises appearing on foreign markets. Together with Soviet organisations concerned it took part in elaborating measures to ensure the fulfillment of the planned undertakings.

The order of establishing and effecting direct ties, the rights and possibilities of Soviet partners in direct ties and cooperation have been determined. These matters, once accomplished, will enable Soviet ministries and enterprises to join the foreign economic activity as early as from first days of the new year.

Concrete negotiations have already been under way with representatives of foreign organisations and firms, including Western ones, on setting up joing enterprises on soviet territory. This opportunity for broadening cooperation, that was opened up, evoked the most lively interest of Soviet partners abroad and the first results from carrying through this new form of ties can be expected before long.

Work to effect the reform of foreign economic ties got under way. All measures undertaken within its framework will help strengthen the USSR's positions on the international market.

ABUSE OF QUALITY PRICE SUPPLEMENTS HIT

PM161219 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 50, December 1986 (Signed to Press 4 Dec 86) p 17

[Unattributed report: "Ensuring that Prices Correspond to Quality" -- last paragraph is editorial comment]

[Text] In 1986 a new procedure was introduced for providing preferential incentives for new generations of equipment, and basic provisions for discounts on wholesale prices for output liable to be taken out of production were introduced (EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 3). The effect of this on the production of highly efficient machinery and equipment and top-quality instruments may be gauged from the figures in an analysis of the practical application of incentive premiums on wholesale prices for top-quality output and discounts on low-quality articles. These figures are given below with a commentary by the USSR State Committee for Prices [Goskomtsen].

In 1986 the USSR Goskomtsen approved over 3,000 wholesale prices for new and modernized machines, equipment, and instruments including around 2,000 prices with incentive premiums. The total amount of newly assimilated equipment rose by almost 50 percent. The total number of incentive premiums increased by over 15 percent to total over R600 million.

However, despite the significant increase in premiums there have been no substantial improvements in terms of raising the technical standard of output: Some 40 percent of new machinery and equipment submitted by ministries for approval of wholesale prices was graded by the reception commissions as output with technical and economic indicators in the first quality category but inferior to the best examples in terms of productivity, reliability, and economy.

Such ministries include the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, and the Ministry of Instrument Making, Qutomation Equipment, and Control Systems.

The assimilation of new equipment is still carried out not by offering fundamentally new machines and equipment for production but mainly through partial modernization of output already in production. Most new products have only minor improvements to distinguish them from old ones.

Articles submitted for grading as top-quality often fail to meet those requirements when first submitted for grading. In the machine building sectors 15.6 percent of output had its premiums terminated (through being certified as only first quality). The situation in this respect was particularly unfavorable at the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, where the indicators in question were 78.7 percent and 77.8 percent respectively.

There are also occasions when certain enterprises continue to receive incentive premiums from customers even after losing top quality grading. On the basis of check results price-fixing organs confiscated as budget income R504,600 of unlawfully obtained premiums from 36 articles manufactured by 23 enterprises which had lost their Seal of Quality. The greatest number of violations was committed by enterprises of the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems.

Some enterprises try to fix unjustifiably high prices and premiums. Incentive premiums have been refused for the updated 15104M mixer, the R63-4B gang saw (Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry), the updated SMA-267A sifter (Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building), and many other goods because they offered insufficient economic effect in use.

In a number of instances enterprises which have received the Seal of Quality and an incentive premium stop "worrying" about output quality and produce equipment whose technical and economic characteristics are below the standard envisaged by the normative-technical documentation and accepted when validating prices and premiums.

As is well known, the new procedure for applying discounts to wholesale prices is to be introduced gradually as output is certified in the first category of quality. In that way scientific research institutes and design bureaus and development workers and manufacturers are given a certain amount of time (before the routine regrading of output) to develop new equipment corresponding to the world standard. If new output of a high technical standard and quality is not created in that time, economic sanctions (wholesale price discounts) come into operation.

The USSR Goskomtsen estimates the total discounts on the output oif 11 machine building ministries in 1987 will exceed R100 million and will increase in 1983 to R350 million. From 1989 on a reduction in discounts may be expected from the assimilation of new machinery, equipment, and instruments corresponding to world standards in place of output in the first quality category.

As a result of the early regrading of output in 1985 only 6 percent of the total amount of first-quality goods will be regraded in 1986, with 20 percent in 1987, and 74 percent in 1988-89.

As checks by price-fixing and financial organs show, in 50 percent of the cases in which output has been graded first-category since 1 January 1986, discounts (in breach of the established procedure) were not transferred to budget revenue by enterprises but were compulsorily confiscated by the USSR Ministry of Finance and price-fixing organs. This is evidence that certain sector ministries fail to perform the necessary monitoring of the organization of output grading at enterprises under their jurisdiction and the prompt use of wholesale price discounts on first-quality output and output not graded by the set deadline.

From the Editorial Office. In the new conditions of the campaign to improve output quality the stance taken by enterprise leaders of from the aforementioned machine building ministries deserve the most serious condemnation. The editorial office hopes to receive replies on the adoption of effective measures to eliminate shortcomings in the production of fundamentally new machines and equipment.

IZVESTIYA DISCUSSES CONSUMER GOODS PRICING

PM151903 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 December 1986 Morning Edition carries on page 1 under the headline "Why Are There No Cheap Goods?" a 1,500-word "Economic Review" by M. Berger.

Having examined at some length the shortage of cheap high-quality consumer goods and the possible reasons for it, Berger concludes:

"It must obviously be recognized that the price of goods should be able to rise, but only subject to rigorous observance of a number of conditions. The producer must not confuse his own labor costs in the production of goods with those that are socially necessary. Any price increase can be justified only as a result of an item's improved consumer qualities and not by production inadequacies or insufficiently skilled workers. But perhaps the main point is to ensure the guaranteed availability of both the latest fashionable goods and of inexpensive and good-quality goods from the same group. In other words, a suit costing R80 must definitely be available next to a suit costing R200, while boots priced at R12 must certainly be displayed next to boots priced at R50.

"Here it is necessary to do some hard work on the new economic machinery due to be introduced in trade and light industry in the new year. The financial prosperity of enterprises will depend not on the gross volume of goods produced but on the extent to which the production program corresponds with trade orders. And one of the most important indicators for trade will be the maintenance of a range of goods on a large scale of price groups.

"The new machinery will certainly help to eliminate faults in price formation. But this will occur only if the producer is assured that he will not be told one fine day: 'Orders are orders, but let's fulfill at all costs the control figures for output volumes!' Otherwise, as in the past, will have to work out the riddle: In what way does the more expensive new product differ from its pedecessor?"

CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON AGRICULTURE

LD171020 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Dec 86 (TASS) -- Favorable preconditions have now been created in the country's rural areas for a resolute transfer everywhere to new methods of economic management and the broad development of productive vigor by those working there. This is noted by the CPSU Central Committee in a resulution on urgent measures to enhance agricultural productivity on the basis of implementing rational forms of organization and financial autonomy.

The practice of recent years shows that this can best of all be achieved when relations of financial autonomy are fully mastered at all levels of production and collective contracting and intensive technologies are introduced. It is already the case now on many farms that, by ensuring a high level of personal interest on the part of machine operators, animal farmworkers and other workers in the results of their labor, financial autonomy and collective contracting are exerting a great effect on enhancing the efficiency of public sector production.

What have shown themselves to be best among the various forms of collective contracting are teams which are small in number and labor brigades which have land, machinery and other means of production attached to them for long periods of time on a contractual basis. The family form of contracting is becoming more and more widespread in all regions of the country.

However, the CPSU Central Committee has noted, much formalism and irresponsibility is tolerated when financial autonomy and collective contracting are introduced. At many farms this work is conducted without the due training or personnel and thorough working out of contractual obligations. Contracting collectives often do not have guaranteed supply of resources, and there are not strong incentives to economize on the latter.

The Central Committee has asked for the state of affairs in adoption of economic methods of management to be critically examined in every collective, for specific steps to be defined for transferring all basic production subdivisions to financial autonomy and collective contracting, and for family contracting and other progressive forms of labor organization and incentives for it to be developed to the utmost.

CSA CITED ON NOVEMBER AGRICULTURAL PERFORMANCE

PM161013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "All-union Competition Diary" report under general heading "Complete the Labor Year": "Agriculture"]

[Text] "To Fulfill the Plan for the Second Year of the 5-Year Plan by the 70th Anniversary of Great October -- this line appears among the socialist pledges by stockmen on many of Stavropol Kray's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. It has been made possible by successful work in the current year, with annual targets for the sale of all types of stockraising produce to the state having been met by the kray's working people in the first 10 days of December. Moreover, the increased output by stock units was successfully achieved without any increase in the consumption of feed grain. The experience of Kirovskiy Rayon farms was disseminated all over the kray. Local crop specialists squeezed low-yield feed crops out of the fields and replaced them with mixed crops. As a result, every feed unit of forage procured for the winter contains as much protein as is required in scientifically substantiated feed rations.

For many rural workers, the outgoing year has been a year of persistent introduction of new methods of economic management and application of advanced forms of labor organization and incentives. It was this, according to specialists' opinion, that affected the work results of crop farmers, stockmen, and their partners. There was, for example, an increase in the output and state purchase of grain, potatoes, vegetables, and fruit. The grain harvest, for example, was about 210 million metric tons, which was 30 million metric tons more than the average level for the 11th 5-Year Plan.

According to USSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA] data, in January-November there was a 5- to 8-percent increase in the output of meat and milk on kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and interfarm enterpirses compared with last year. Livestock and poultry productivity increased.

The stockmen have analyzed the competition results for January-November. According to the USSR CSA there was an 8.4-percent increase in livestock and poultry purchases in the country as a whole by the beginning of December, a 5.1-percent increase in milk purchases, and a 5.5-percent increase in egg purchases. Compared with last year there was a considerable increase in livestock and poultry purchases on farms in Kazakhstan and Kirghizia, Volgograd, Penza, Kurgan, and Chita Oblasts, and the Buryat ASSR. More milk than last year was dispatched to procurement centers by farms in Uzbekistan, in Irkutsk, Perm, and Amur Oblasts, and in the Udmurt ASSR. And yet the results of work at feeding units and complexes in Estonia, the Yakut ASSR, and Pskov Oblast were poorer.

Further growth in milk yields, animal weight gains, and meat and milk deliveries to the state requires adequate quantities of feed. According to the USSR CSA, this year's procurement totaled 142 metric tons of feed -- which, calculated in feed units, represents 102 percent of the plan.

The paramount concern now is how to organize livestock wintering.

Purchases of raw cotton are approaching completion. According to USSR CSA data, sales of raw cotton to the state by 8 December totaled 8.23 million metric tons, which is 92 percent of the annual plan. The targets for raw cotton purchases have been met by crop farmers in Namangan, Surkhan-Darya, Tashkent, and Fergana Oblasts in Uzbekistan and in the Azerbaijan and Tajik SSR's. But farms in Kashka-Darya and Navoi Oblasts and in Turkmenistan have some catching up to do.

The immediate concerns also include the preparation of equipment in good time for next spring's field operations. The last of the grain harvesting combines, which started undergoing repairs immediately after the mowing of grain crops, came off the repair line at the Azerbaijan SSR's Bardinskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association a few days ago. Before that, all soil cultivation equipment was brought up to readiness standards there. A sound example! In the country as a whole, according to the USSR CSA, the first day of winter saw 83 percent of tractors, 77 percent of plows, 74 percent of sowing machines, and 73 percent of cultivators in working order. The pace of equipment maintenance must be speeded up.

COSMOS-1807 LAUNCHED 16 DEC, 'OPERATING NORMALLY'

LD170749 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0727 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Dec (TASS) -- Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1807 was launched in the USSR on 16th December. It is intended for the continuation of space research. The satellite has been put into an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution -- 89.6 minutes; apogee -- 370 kilometers; perigee -- 177 kilometers; orbital inclination -- 67 degrees. The apparatus is operating normally.

SCIENTISTS HOLD MOSCOW MEETING ON PHOBOS PROJECT

LD161633 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 9 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Recently in Moscow at the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute, a meeting of an international council of experts was held, where there was discussion of the forthcoming research on the Mars satellite, Phobos. At this colloquium, distinguished scientists from the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia, as well as from a series of capitalist countries, met. They do not all want to directly participate in the realization of the grandiose space odyssey, which is being planned by Soviet scientists. However, there is exceptional interest in this undertaking and the most well-known world astronomers and leaders of national space organizations expressed the desire to familiarize themselves with the program of the Phobos project, the results of which will represent a significant contribution to the world treasure trove of science.

The experiments envisaged will shed light on many problems so that guesses and hypotheses wil give way to knowledge. [passage omitted]

Now you will hear the comments of the scientist at the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute, Yuriy Zaytsev, an expert in the field of satellite technology:

[Begin Zaytsev recording in Russian with superimposed translation] In June 1988 two Soviet automatic inter-planetary stations constructed on the basis of new principles will be launched within a few days of each other from the Baykonur cosmodrome. The time of the launching has been selected to minimize fuel consumption. After a 200-day flight, the station will arrive in the vicinity of Mars. The entire undertaking will last 460 days.

At the beginning the automatic stations will go into orbit around Earth as artificial satellites and only then will they be directed toward Mars. When they approach Mars, they will, with the aid of a special device, carry out a detailed examination of its surface, atmosphere, ionosphere and magnetosphere. Close-up television pictures of Mars as well as exhaustive data on the chemical and mineralogical composition of its surface and their radiological and physical characteristics will be obtained. At the same time, a spherical map of the surface of Mars will be formulated. We will probably then finally manage to comprehend the mechanism by which sand storms are caused on this planet.

After this, both automatic stations, carrying out complex maneuvers and changing their orbit, will approach Mars' satellite Phobos. This is the main and, from a technological point of view, the most complicated part of the expedition for which scientists have proposed a series of inventive and bold solutions. For example, since Phobos has weak gravitational pull, the stations can research it easily while moving at an altitude of abut 50 meters above its surface, halting occasionally in order to examine in more detail some interesting places. Then, in a rapid, low flight which will last 15 minutes, television pictures will be taken, and laser soundings of the surface of Phobos as well as an examination of its internal structure with the aid of radio waves will be made. Ending its low flight, the automatic interplanetary station will send two pieces of equipment down to the surface of Phobos. One of these apparatuses will move around on the surface of Phobos, making jumps of about 20 meters. The other apparatus will be at a fixed location on the surface where it will, for about a year, carry out experiements, the results of which will be sent back to earth. [passage omitted]

One of the most interesting experiments in which scientists from the USSR, Bulgaria, the GDR and Czechoslovakia are participating, is the laser soundings of the surface of Phobos. When the station arrives in the immediate vicinity of this satellite of Mars, it will concentrate the rays of its laser on a small piece of its surface, the diameter of which will not be more than one millimeter. The concentration of energy on the radiated spot will amount to about 10 million watts. There will be an explosion in which a thin layer of surface dust, which has the same composition as the surrounding rocks will be turned into gas. Then a special device on board the station will determine the structure of its particles. During the flight above Phobos, an analysis of its surface will be carried out at about 100 points. [passage omitted: details of which pieces of apparatus the different socialist countries are specializing in; Austria, Sweden, France, Switzerland, the FRG and Finland are also cooperating in the project]

At present, deliveries of technological equipment for the scientific apparatuses for the USSR Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute are being completed. In the middle of December experimental testing of the entire scientific complex under the conditions of its operation in the space station will begin. [end recording]

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

LD111213 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Text] The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the Council of Ministers of the USSR have adopted a resolution aimed at improving the training of personnel for the introduction of new technology. The resolution says that the existing system falls behind today's requirements and the nation's strategy of accelerating economic development. The resolution incorporates specific measures to train workers and experts for the newest areas of technological progress.

BRIEFS

LASER MINERAL EXPLORATION -- Soviet researchers have built a laser system for exploring terrestrial mineral resources. Consisting of compact devices, the system will be carried by planes, helicopters and satellites. It will help scientists discover mineral deposits and define their size. Besides, the new system will make it possible to compile in a matter of minutes the ecological maps of extensive areas. [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 13 Dec 86 LD]

FBIS DAILY REPORT

Soviet Union

CONTENTS

Vol III No 243 18 December 1986

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Intention To Continue Geneva Talks Stressed AA 1
[Fedorov in PRAVDA 18 Dec]
Velikhov on Raising Missile 'Invulnerability' AA 4
SDI Program To Bring 'Strategic Chaos' AA 5
[Chernyshev]
'Move Forward' on Chemical Weapons Talks Noted AA 6
U.S. Plans To Continue Nuclear Test Program AA 6
NATO View on Conventional Arms Lead Denied AA 6
[Vasilyev]
LATE REPORT: Government Statement on Nuclear Testing AA 8
[IZVESTIYA 19 Dec]

WORLD & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

UN Adopts Resolution on Peace, Security CC 1
PRAVDA Views International Human Rights Day CC 2
[10 Dec]
Interview With CSCE Delegation Head Kashlev CC 4
[Prague PRACE 10 Dec]
IZVESTIYA Views Mood at Vienna CSCE Meeting CC 6
[Matveyev, Novikov, 11 Dec]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Moscow Discusses CIA Director's Illness A 1
[Agayants]
Briefs: Soviet TV in U.S. A 1

CHINA

Protocol Signed With PRC on Border Rivers B 1
Ryzhkov Message Notes Improving Ties With PRC B 1
[PRAVDA 13 Dec]
Increased Trade, Economic Ties With China Noted B 2

SOUTH ASIA

Pakistani Nuclear Tests 'Serious Threat' D 1
Pakistan Uses Clashes To Quell Opposition D 1
[Pravdin, Andrianov]

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Further on Ligachev Visit to Vietnamese Congress E 1
Addresses Friendship Group E 1
[PRAVDA 18 Dec]
Visits Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum E 4
Views Hydroelectric Complex E 4
Meets Laos' Kaysone Phomvihan E 5
Medvedev Addresses Workers E 5
3 SRV Leaders To Step Down; Health Cited E 6
New CPV General Secretary E 6

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Nicaraguan Assembly Grants Hasenfus Pardon K 1
Nicaragua's Ortega on U.S. Intervention, Intent K 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium Meets R 1
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 17 Dec]
Gusev, Afonin Attend TU Congress in Moscow R 2
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 13 Dec]
Officials Sign Obituary of Chernigov Obkom Chief R 2
[PRAVDA 5 Dec]
Yevtushenko Defends Aitmatov, New Novel R 2
Views Religion, Morality R 3
[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 10 Dec]
Academic Takes Issue With Yevtushenko Article R 6
[Kaltakhchyan in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 10 Dec]
Director Interviewed on Theater Reform R 12
[Buryakov in IZVESTIYA 5 Dec]
Kiev Commemorates Human Rights Day 10 Dec R 14
[PRAVDA UKRAINY 11 Dec]
TRUD Exposes Corruption in Bolshoy Theater R 15
[Tsitrinyak, 13 Dec]
Society For Links With Expatriates Issues Appeal R 15
[PRAVDA 13 Dec]
Earthquake Registered in Moldavia 17 Dec R 15

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

CSA Issues Jan-Nov Industrial Performance Report S 1
[EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 51, Dec]

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmos-1808 Satellite Launched 17 Dec U 1
Tajikstan Ties Into 'Orbita' TV Network U 1
[PRAVDA 5 Dec]

INTENTION TO CONTINUE GENEVA TALKS STRESSED

PM171751 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 First Edition p 5

[A. Fedorov article: "Washington's Hypocrisy"]

[Text] The mutual understanding on questions of nuclear weapons -- strategic and medium-range missiles -- reached at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik generated great and justified hopes throughout the world. Furthermore, both sides in Reykjavik discussed decisions which, if they were to be implemented, would be of historic -- in the full sense of the world -- importance from the viewpoint of the struggle for nuclear disarmament: It was agreed to eliminate all USSR and U.S. strategic offensive weapons within a 10-year period -- in other words, by the end of 1996. A zero option -- in other words, elimination -- was also envisaged with respect to U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe.

It is known, however, that the positive results of the Reykjavik meeting also generated a different, a directly opposite reaction among certain circles in the West. Some figures in the United States itself, and even in West Europe, frightened of the prospect of a radical lessening of nuclear confrontation and the corresponding easing of international tension, took a course of discrediting the Reykjavik accords and actually dismantling them.

Under these circumstances the Soviet Union, guided by the program for nuclear disarmament by the end of this century which was put forward by M.S. Gorbachev back on 15 January, resolutely urged that Reykjavik's success be consolidated and developed, and that the package of measures aimed at a global solution to the problem of nuclear and space weapons, which took shape there, be transformed into a comprehensive agreement binding on both sides. All that was needed for this purpose was to agree on measures to strengthen the ABM Treaty's provisions in order to block the arms race in space and to agree on the start of talks regarding the complete banning of nuclear tests.

With a view to materializing the positive results from Reykjavik the Soviet side at the Geneva talks submitted on 7 November 1986 a package of interconnected proposals on all aspects of the problems of nuclear and space weapons which were discussed in the Icelandic capital. In order not to slacken the pace and to prepare the ground for constructive progress in the next round, scheduled for 15 January next year, it was proposed to the U.S. side that a working meeting between USSR and U.S. representatives at the nuclear and space weapons talks be held. This meeting took place in Geneva 2-5 December.

What did it produce? Unfortunately, the results of the discussions which took place are disappointing. The point is that while the Soviet side arrived at the meeting with the firm intention to seek and find a way to resolve the questions on which differences still exist, and thus attain the materialization of the solution of the nuclear and space weapons problem which started to emerge in Reykjavik, it became clear that the U.S. representatives were committed to a different approach -- to judge by everything, it had been made incumbent upon them to do everything to distance Washington's present position as much as possible from the Reykjavik accords and to shunt the Geneva talks onto the old unconstructive tracks. And, it has to be said, they spared no energy for this purpose. There were numerous meetings and conversations in Geneva during the first week of December, but they proved fruitless. Because it is impossible to engage in constructive work when the other side at the talks -- the U.S. side -- wants only to liquidate the positive results of Reykjavik.

When talking to journalists now, Max Kampelman, chief U.S. representative at the nuclear and space weapons talks and at the working meeting in Geneva, tries to shift responsibility for the failure of the Geneva working meeting onto the Soviet side. He claims that the Soviet side does not want the destruction of ballistic missiles, advocates a comprehensive solution to the nuclear and space weapons problems, and is against a settlement of differences. But these and other arguments used by Kampelman cannot substantiate his complaints against the Soviet side. They are clearly meant for the ignorant.

Take the question of ballistic missiles. To state that the USSR supposedly does not wish their destruction is to utter a deliberate untruth. The Soviet side is in favor of ballistic missiles, in other words ICBM's and SLBM's, being destroyed by the end of 1996 but, of course, within the context of eliminating the entire strategic triad and not just a part of it. This was the approach -- the elimination of all strategic offensive weapons within 10 years -- that was agreed upon in Reykjavik, and it is this approach, coupled with the pledge on simultaneous nonwithdrawal from the ABM Treaty, that can ensure equality and equal security for the sides and the maintenance of strategic stability with a sharply reduced level of nuclear confrontation.

But now the United States is talking about eliminating only ballistic missiles. This is not just a gross distortion of the Reykjavik accord in the sphere of nuclear and space weapons. This is a blatant claim to the acquisition of overwhelming military superiority by the United States. On the pretext of destroying the so-called "most destabilizing" nuclear and space weapons -- in other words as if this is in the interests of lessening the military threat -- claims are being made to ensure a decisive U.S. advantage in forces, through heavy bombers and also through forward-based nuclear means including carrier-based aircraft capable of reaching targets on USSR territory. Thus, laments about Soviet objections regarding the destruction of just ballistic missiles instead of all strategic offensive weapons by 1996 cannot be described as anything but hypocritical.

There is an equally hypocritical look to Mr Kampelman's complaints about the package solution to nuclear and space weapons problems proposed by the Soviet Union. The USSR delegation at the Geneva talks adheres precisely to the positions spelled out by M.S. Gorbachev in Reykjavik. And the U.S. side knew from the very beginning that we put forward nothing but a comprehensive solution in the Icelandic capital. This did not produce any reservations at the time.

So why have they now started talking to us about the desirability and even necessity for a separate solution on questions concerning the 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive weapons and the elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe? For one single purpose -- to pocket the major concessions made on these questions by the Soviet Union for the sake of reaching agreement, without giving anything in exchange. In other words, they would like to destroy the package of compromises and mutual interests which took shape in Reykjavik for the sake of gaining unilateral advantages for the United States. Thus, progress at the Geneva talks is being obstructed not by the Reykjavik package, but by Washington's continuing pursuit of the dream of military superiority.

Similarly, as regards concrete questions of reducing strategic offensive arms by 50 percent and also eliminating the medium-range missiles of the USSR and the United States in Europe, the present American position is by no means constructive.

Contrary to the results of Reykjavik, Washington is now once again raising the question of imposing additional sublevels for warheads on strategic ballistic missiles, seeking to wreck the established structure of the Soviet strategic forces, and is demanding, without any grounds, the halving of the aggregate throw-weight of Soviet ICBM's and SLBM's, as well as a ban on mobile ICBM's. [paragraph continues]

At the Geneva consultations the U.S. side has not displayed the slightest desire to talk about the question of establishing effective limitations on long-range sea-based cruise missiles, a question which was resolved in principle in Reykjavik. Yet this is necessary in the interests of preventing the bypassing and ensuring the viability of the accord in the sphere of strategic offensive arms.

The Geneva consultations have also demonstrated Washington's clear loss of interest in reaching an accord on medium-range missiles in Europe. How has this been expressed? By the fact that the U.S. representatives now prefer to talk mainly not about medium-range missiles, but about missiles with a range shorter than medium, despite the fact that both in Reykjavik and in Geneva the Soviet Union has clearly proposed that in the course of resolution of the question of eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, a freeze be imposed on shorter-range missiles in Europe and talks be commenced immediately concerning their future. Moreover, the U.S. side formulates its position on shorter-range missiles in such a way as to allow a sharp buildup for the United States, in flagrant contradiction to the task of eliminating nuclear weapons.

Another characteristic feature: As a counterweight to the Soviet proposal not to site medium-range missiles (in Asia for us, and on its own territory for the United States) so that they can reach targets on each other's territory, Washington seeks the right to deploy its medium-range missiles in Alaska, which would result in the emergence of a new source of tension in that part of the world. This, clearly, is evidence of an integrated militarist line, inspired by Pentagon strategists and confirmed in the recent decision to site U.S. Lance nuclear missiles in South Korea. In a word, there is clearly no intention of stopping the export of the U.S. nuclear threat to the Asian-Pacific region. On the contrary, they are working toward extending this practice.

Thus in seeking to pull apart the Reykjavik package Washington politicians would like to drive the Geneva talks into the old pre-Reykjavik impasses, and thereby halt progress toward equal, effective accords. While verbally claiming adherence to the goals of achieving constructive solutions, in practice they are doing everything to wreck such solutions. That is the real meaning of the present U.S. behavior at the Geneva talks. And no two-faced expatiations played to the gallery can conceal this fact.

The American side also continues to engage in obstructionism in the examination of a key question, the strengthening of the ABM Treaty. Here too there is the same hypocrisy. Verbally, agreement is expressed not to use the right to withdraw from the ABM Treaty for a 10-year period, but in practice this is hedged about with stipulations which would negate the aforementioned mutual pledge. First, the agreement not to withdraw from the ABM Treaty is made conditional on the USSR's consent to the elimination by the end of 1996 only of ballistic missiles, which, as we have seen, is fundamentally incapable of forming the basis for a mutually acceptable accord. Second, the pledge not to withdraw is interpreted by the U.S. side so arbitrarily that in effect it turns into its own opposite -- the right to withdraw from the ABM Treaty on any imaginary pretext. Third, the U.S. side does not agree to confine work in the sphere of space ABM defense to within the laboratory walls. Washington has no desire to put restrictions on the SDI program, which is the main obstacle on the path to radical nuclear arms reductions; it seeks the legalization of its "right" to test ABM systems in space.

The U.S. representatives also avoided resolving in principle the question of the commencement of talks concerning a complete ban on nuclear tests.

All these elements of the present U.S. position were the reason why the working consultations in Geneva did not yield a positive result. The Soviet side sought to sound out ways to overcome differences, while the U.S. representatives placed the emphasis on drawing up a list of the differences. This is a pointless occupation. The unresolved questions are already well known. It is important to find a way of settling them, but that was precisely what the U.S. representatives did not want to do, thereby showing that they had no intention of bringing any fresh constructive ideas to Geneva with them.

The question may arise: What next? Will the talks on nuclear and space arms again reach an impasse, despite Reykjavik? Unfortunately it must be admitted that the efforts of the United States and certain circles in NATO are leading to precisely this. And these efforts are being made not only at the talks, but elsewhere. Suffice it to recall that the White House has exceeded one of the key limitations under the SALT II treaty -- on the aggregate number of MIRVed strategic ballistic missiles and heavy bombers with air-based long-range cruise missiles.

However, the Soviet Union does not yield to provocations. We do not intend to break off the talks, any more than we intend to indulge the initiators of new, still more dangerous spirals in the arms race. It is our conviction that the potential exists to avert an unfavorable turn of events and prevent the destruction of the existing treaty base in the strategic arms limitation sphere. Every opportunity also exists to consolidate and develop the positive results of Reykjavik and to resolve radically and in full the problem of nuclear and space arms. We believe that a sense of reponsibility and new approaches to policy will prevail.

It is in this mood and in the expectation of constructive amendments to the U.S. position that the Soviet side is preparing for the next round of talks on nuclear and space arms in Geneva.

VELIKHOV ON RAISING MISSILE 'INVULNERABILITY'

LD171710 Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- The creation of the SDI is the greatest danger which has ever threatened mankind, holds Yevgeniy Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Replying to questions by journalists at a press conference devoted to the publication of the monograph "Space Weapons: Dilemma of Security", the Soviet scientist said the following: "The SDI means placing weapons into space. It is not so important whether they will be nuclear or laser weapons, since the masterminds of the SDI will always find arguments to substantiate an accelerated arms race in space. Therefore, the Soviet Union invariably stands out against its creation.

"The Soviet Union is not engaged in developing strike space weapons and is critical of the position of governments which decided to participate in the SDI programme," said Academician Velikhov. At present there are very many methods and means of verifying the nature of objects and systems, including Soviet ones, placed into space.

At the same time he said that the USSR had quite a number of means capable of raising invulnerability of Soviet missiles. Measures to counter the SDI will be expensive, of course, but nevertheless much cheaper than the SDI programme. They will be probably based on various ways of interception and use of various basing modes.

It was pointed out at the press conference that the realization of the "Star Wars" programme will lead to saturating space with lethal types of weapons, including nuclear arms, and will give an impetus to the race in strategic offensive weapons on earth.

SDI PROGRAM TO BRING 'STRATEGIC CHAOS'

LD172009 Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

Washington stubbornly refuses to join the unilateral Soviet moratorium on any nuclear explosions. One of the main causes being the development in the United States of nuclear weapons of "a third generation," intended, above all, for the Star Wars programme. The U.S. Administration is ignoring the danger coming to the world from militarisation of outer space. The U.S. SDI will lead to disappearance of the very notion of strategic stability, it will bring strategic chaos which is determined by a number of aspects.

First, there is a close interconnection between strategic offensive and defensive armaments, efficient measures of limitation of ABM systems are a substantial factor in restraining the race of offensive armaments and are called upon to lessen the danger of war with the use of nuclear weapons. The violation, the disregard for this interconnection inevitably leads to the disruption of strategic stability.

Second, the bringing into the pattern of strategic forces of a qualitatively new component, which is the broad-scale ABM system with space-based elements, introduces an element of uncertainty into the system of strategic balance, heightens apprehensions of the sides as to emergence of disbalance in the strategic potentials.

Third, strike space armaments, which are considered also as anti-satellite weapons, even provided limited proportions of their deployment, will be destabilising the situation since the sides will not be confident of the reliability and security of their satellite systems of nuclear missile attack warning, systems of control and observation.

Fourth, establishment of broad-scale ABM systems will be a strong stimulus for a quantitative build up of strategic offensive armaments, both delivery vehicles and nuclear warheads. This may refer to intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarine ballistic missiles and also to ground and sea-based long-range cruise missiles, the deployment of which it is difficult to control.

Fifth, the development and deployment of the anti-missile system will lead to accelerated development and perfection of systems of counteracting defense, means of breaking it by strategic offensive armaments, that is to the addition of one more fundamentally new element to the strategic equation and, consequently, to its still greater uncertainty.

Sixth, in reply to the development of means of counteracting the ABM system, the sides will develop weapons to combat them (counter-counteraction weapons), which will add the third new element to the strategic equation and will also act as an "amplifier" of its uncertainty.

Realisation of the Star Wars programme will therefore lead to destabilisation of the situation, bordering on a crisis, and will make the situation even more explosive. The SDI is a reckless game also with the security of the United States itself. The Star Wars technology, warn sober-minded American specialists, might one fine day boomerang the United States. The White House and the Pentagon should think over this warning.

'MOVE FORWARD' ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS TALKS NOTED

LD171750 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1647 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Geneva, 17 December TASS -- A regular round in the multilateral talks on banning chemical weapons took place here over recent weeks within the framework of the Disarmament Conference. At the center of the attention of the conference participants were the new Soviet proposals, put forward at the conference in elaboration of M.S. Gorbachev's statement of 15 January 1986. These are proposals on the verification of the nonmanufacture of chemical weapons by commercial industry and on verifications on demand [proverki po zaprosu].

On the basis of the Soviet proposals there occurred in the course of the round the famous move forward in agreeing on certain key questions in the future convention for banning chemical weapons, although on a number of aspects the United States and other NATO countries continue to create artificial difficulties at the talks. However, it is now clear that the Soviet proposals are opening the way to concluding a convention as early as 1987.

To this end, it is necessary, above all, that the other participants in the talks also demonstrate political will and commitment [zainteresovannost], V.I. Israelyan, head of the USSR delegation, emphasized while speaking to journalists. He called on the other parties to step up the work so as not to let slip the apparent opportunity of excluding forever from military arsenals mass-destruction weapons as terrible as chemical weapons.

The next round of talks will open on 12 January.

U.S. PLANS TO CONTINUE NUCLEAR TEST PROGRAM

LD180831 Moscow TASS in English 0813 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Washington December 18 TASS -- The United States is planning to continue the nuclear test programme in the new year despite protests of the world and American public.

THE WASHINGTON POST reported today, quoting informed sources, that "five U.S. tests are planned for the first three months of next year. "Experts said that the 1987 total probably will exceed this year's."

NATO VIEW ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS LEAD DENIED

LD140136 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] In Brussels the final stage has ended [words indistinct] the session of the NATO Council just as the preceding meetings of NATO's (?Nuclear Planning Group) [words indistinct] took place amid claims of an alleged Soviet superiority in conventional armaments. Here is what our defense correspondent Aleksandr Vasilyev writes in this connection:

The prospects of a nuclear-free Europe, a nuclear-free world, that opened up and were discussed in principle in Reykjavik have frightened NATO leaders and made them once again resort to the false claims about an alleged Soviet military menace, this time [words indistinct] in the superiority of the nonnuclear force [words indistinct].

NATO strategists are trying to convince the public that without nuclear weapons the West will come to face the overwhelming superiority of Moscow in conventional weapons, especially tanks.

We must say that the NATO leadership is not playing fair. It juggles with figures and facts for selfish purposes. As a result of this play the defense ministers of the NATO Eurogroup decided a few days ago to step up conventional armaments and put into service next year 275 tanks, 170 planes, new warships, and so forth. It would seem that there is no need to return to what was proved a long time ago, namely that there is a military-strategic parity between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization and that equality in conventional armaments is an inseparable component of this parity. However, in the light of the latest claims made by NATO we are forced to do so, though it is not very easy to determine the exact correlation of forces in conventional armaments.

The comparison of combat-ready divisions can give a certain idea of this. Such divisions are capable of entering hostilities without additional time for preparation. It is true that the total number of such divisions of the Soviet Union is greater than that of the United States. But this is determined by the geographic and strategic location of the Soviet Union and the necessity to guarantee a balance in different regions bordering on it not only in Europe. The land borders of the Soviet Union are over 20,000 kilometers long. However, in Europe 94 NATO divisions are confronted by only 78 divisions of the Warsaw Treaty countries. It should also be borne in mind that in the number of personnel an American or West German division is almost twice greater than a division of the Warsaw Treaty nations. As for tanks, NATO leaders count only those controlled by the joint command of the allies and don't take into account the ones under national command of NATO member-countries. Neither do they include the tanks kept in arsenals that can be brought into action fast. As a result, instead of the actual 25,000 NATO tanks only 12,000 are named. Besides, NATO is known to be superior in anti-tank weapons.

There are a number of examples of seemingly Soviet superiority in other conventional armaments, for example, in tactical planes and helicopters, in artillery and warships. But a serious analysis makes it quite clear that the general balance of forces remains the same and this has been admitted by Western experts. NATO leaders point to the seeming inequality but silence the propoals of Warsaw Treaty countries on the reduction of conventional arms such as cuts by 100 - 150,000 men on both sides in 1 or 2 years. Then, in the early '90s the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries could further reduce their land forces and tactical aviation by 25 percent as compared with the present level. Such reductions would affect over half a million men on each side. But so far NATO has not responded to these initiatives.

LATE REPORT: GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR TESTING

PM181618 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 1

["Soviet Government Statement" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] Almost 18 months have passed since the Soviet Union, in its desire to contribute to terminating the dangerous competition in building up nuclear arsenals and desirous of setting a good example to the other nuclear powers, made the decision to unilaterally terminate all nuclear explosions and called upon the United States to join in this action.

Despite the serious costs [izderzhki] which the Soviet Union incurred in terms of its own security by extending the moratorium on nuclear explosions time after time, this unilateral measure played an exceptionally important role in international life. It placed on a practical plane the question of ending nuclear tests and together with it other questions of ending the nuclear arms race. The moratorium demonstrated in practice the possibility of taking steps capable of raising effective barriers in the way of the nuclear arms race.

It is a matter of the deepest regret that the present U.S. Administration has simply failed to respond positively to the USSR's call to join in its peace initiative. Totally ignoring the world community's demands contained in UN General Assembly resolutions, the calls by the Nonaligned Movement, the proposals by the leaders of the "Delhi Six," and the opinion of parliaments and the international public, the United States stubbornly continues to implement its nuclear-weapons test programs.

The United States attempted to camouflage its unwillingness to end nuclear tests by all sorts of "arguments," and in particular references to the impossibility of ensuring effective verification [kontrol] of this measure. It is, however, perfectly clear that this is a far-fetched pretext. The Soviet Union is prepared -- and this has been repeatedly stated at the highest level -- for all most rigorous verification [kontrol] measures in this sphere. Such verification [kontrol] would be fully ensured both by national technical means and by means of international procedures, including on-site inspection. The Soviet Union has expressed readiness to take advantage of the assistance offered by the "Delhi Six" countries in verifying [proverka] the end of nuclear tests. It proposed to the United States that it also examine the question of establishing an international supranational verification [kontrol] network.

The U.S. response to all these constructive steps by the USSR demonstrates most obviously that the real point at issue does not concern verification [kontrol] at all. The true reason for the U.S. side's refusal to join the Soviet moratorium -- and people in Washington can no longer hide this -- is that the United States is openly counting on gaining military superiority over the Soviet Union and the socialist countries by the creation [sozdaniye] of fundamentally new forms and types of weapons. Not only are new nuclear warheads being developed [razrabatyvayutsya] in the course of the nuclear tests conducted by the United States but strike space-based weapons -- nuclear-pumped X-ray lasers -- are also being created [sozdayutsya] in accordance with the SDI program. Work is being carried out to prepare [po podgotovke] a completely new form of weapon capable of hitting targets in space and on earth.

Naturally, if some people wish to develop [razrabatyvat] increasingly sophisticated types of nuclear arms and implement the "Star Wars" program, and extend the arms race to new spheres, a moratorium means nothing to them. It is precisely a refusal to abandon the plans to gain positions of military superiority through space that explains the U.S. Administration's invariably negative attitude to the Soviet Union's proposals to start fully worthwhile talks which could ban nuclear tests forever.

There is still no sign that the United States is ready to follow the USSR's example and abandon the conducting of nuclear explosions. Moreover, the rate of implementation of U.S. nuclear test programs remains at the previous high level. During the time that the moratorium has been in effect, while silence has reigned at Soviet test sites, the United States has carried out 20 officially announced and 4 unannounced nuclear weapon tests.

Under conditions in which the United States is stubbornly continuing to implement its nuclear test program with a view to creating [sozdaniye] new nuclear arms and building them up, the Soviet Union cannot display one-sided restraint forever. A situation has taken shape which, if continued, is fraught with the danger of serious damage to the USSR and its allies.

After a deep and comprehensive examination of this question the Soviet leadership considers it necessary to state the following.

First. The Soviet Union again proposes the immediate starting of full-scale talks on the total prohibition of nuclear tests. It is prepared to conduct such talks at any level and at any forum, with the United States participating, of course. In the course of these talks verification [kontrol] questions must also be resolved in such a way as to ensure reliable compliance with an agreement on this score. In the process of talks on the complete prohibition of nuclear explosions, the Soviet Union would also be prepared to seek agreement on a phased solution to this task, having in mind the ratification of the 1974 and 1976 Soviet-U.S. treaties and the introduction of interim limitations on the quantity and yield of nuclear explosions.

Second. The USSR is prepared to continue to adhere to its moratorium. However, it will resume nuclear tests after the very first U.S. nuclear explosion in the coming year. [SSSR gotov priderzhivatsya svoyego moratoriya i dalshe. Odnako on vozobnovit yadernyye ispytaniya posle pervogo zhe yadernogo vzryva SSAhv nastupayushem godu.]

Third. If the United States ends nuclear tests, the USSR, on any day or in any month, will be ready to halt the implementation of its program of such tests on the basis of reciprocity.

The decision on the ending by the Soviet Union of its moratorium after the first U.S. nuclear explosion in the coming year is a measure which has been forced upon it, dictated exclusively by security interests. The USSR remains a committed supporter of the complete ending of all nuclear tests as a most important priority measure in the matter of achieving the main objective -- the curbing of the nuclear arms race and the subsequent complete elimination of these arms. As before, the USSR will strive vigorously for the achievement of this objective. It is convinced that its position on this question will meet with due understanding and support from all the peace-loving forces of our planet.

UN ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON PEACE, SECURITY

LD051400 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] New York December 5 TASS -- The 41st session of the United Nations General Assembly has adopted a resolution on the "establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security" submitted for its consideration by the group of the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union. The resolution takes into account the opinion of many U.N. member countries which took part in the discussion of this issue. It sets out main directions of establishing a system of comprehensive security for all, stresses the role of the U.N. and provides for the continued discussion of the question at the next session of the General Assembly. The groundwork has thus been laid for the further extensive constructive dialogue with regards to the essence of the new philosophy of security in the nuclear-space age and practical ways for restructuring international relations on its basis. 102 votes were in favour of the resolution. The United States and France alone voted against. 46 delegations abstained (NATO members and some other countries). Following is the text of the resolution:

Establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security [subhead]

The General Assembly,
Deeply concerned at the tense and dangerous situation in the world and the danger of continuing down the path of confrontation and the arms race towards the abyss of the nuclear self-destruction of mankind,
Deeply concerned at the numerous threats to international peace and security resulting from the persistent violations of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,
Reaffirming the important role of the United Nations as an indispensable forum for conducting negotiations and achieving agreements on measures to strengthen international peace, security and cooperation and to democratize international relations,
Having in mind the necessity to strengthen international cooperation on the basis of existing consensus with a view to promoting the well-being and economic development of all countries, in particular developing countries,
Having discussed the question of a comprehensive system of international peace and security,

1. Solemnly reaffirms that the collective security system embodied in the Charter of the United Nations continues to be a fundamental and irreplaceable instrument for the preservation of international peace and security,
2. Also reaffirms the need to adhere strictly to the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, especially respect for the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of states, non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs, non-use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of disputes and the right of all peoples to self-determination,
3. Recognizes the invaluable role of the United Nations in the preservation of international peace and security, harmonization of the policies of the member states and the imperative need to strengthen and reinforce the United Nations,
4. Calls upon states to focus their efforts on ensuring security on an equal basis for all states and in all spheres of international relations,
5. Calls upon member states to make their contribution to practical measures to ensure compliance with an implementation of provisions of the Charter with particular regard to the crucial and interrelated areas of disarmament, crisis and conflict settlement, economic development and cooperation, the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
6. Further calls for the implementation of resolutions of the United Nations,
7. Decides to continue consideration of this question at its forty-second session under an item entitled "comprehensive system of international peace and security".

PRAVDA VIEWS INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

PM161445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Dec 86 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Human Rights"]

[Text] In December 1966 the United Nations adopted the international human rights conventions. The 20th anniversary of this important event is currently being widely marked throughout the world. Today, on Human Rights Day, it must be especially emphasized that the practical implementation of these rights and freedoms is inseparably linked with the solution of the most pressing problem of the present time — the preservation and consolidation of world peace.

The concept relating to humanitarian questions proclaimed by the 27th CPSU Congress embodies the foremost ideals of social justice and is an integral part of the comprehensive system of international peace and security put forward by the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist community states have every reason to be proud of their contribution to the cause of the practical implementation of human rights and freedoms. The USSR acted as the initiator in the adoption of the international human rights conventions by the United Nations. And these rights are put into practice in our country and the other socialist states.

Respect for human rights ensues from the very essence of the new society. The socialist system can develop successfully only when the people themselves actually manage their affairs and the affairs of their country. Without the further development of socialist democracy and all its aspects it is not possible to achieve the accelerated development of our society. Thus, whereas the human rights question is often the subject of political speculation and hypocrisy for certain representatives of capitalist states, under socialism the problem of the translation of human rights into reality is an invariable precondition for society's successful progress toward its lofty ideals.

The Soviet Union is not just a signatory of all the major international agreements on human rights. It has initiated many of them, including the Declaration on Granting Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Our country has issued an appeal for the right of nations to self-determination, basic socioeconomic rights, and a number of other fundamental propositions to be embodied in the conventions. Convincing evidence of the Soviet Union's loyalty to the human rights ideal is the inclusion of all the 10 principles of the Helsinki Final Act in the Fundamental Law of our country, which has invested them with the power of a supreme legislative priority.

"Democracy manifests itself above all in the fundamental question of war and peace," V.I. Lenin noted. Indeed, how can the words about democracy be reconciled with the actions of the leaders of the states which engage in a frenzied race in nuclear, space, chemical, and other types of mass destruction weapons and kindle hostility between peoples? But this is precisely the kind of policy conducted by the imperialist circles of the United States and some other NATO countries. How can you talk about genuine human rights in a situation where preparations for a nuclear war which threatens to reduce everything to ashes call into question the paramount human right -- the right to life.

Resolutely combatting the threat of nuclear war and constantly advancing new specific and realistic initiatives aimed at building a nuclear-free world and firmly establishing relations of peaceful coexistence and broad cooperation between all countries and peoples, the CPSU and the Soviet state are defending man's most fundamental rights with practical actions.

What question of genuine democracy can there be in a situation where millions upon millions of people are condemned to unemployment, homelessness, and racial and national oppression; where they are subjected to persecution for thinking freely; where they are deprived of their right to education, medical and social assistance, and frequently their simple right to a crust of bread. A society where the individual is misled by the propaganda of war, militarism, and violence, a society in which hatred of other peoples is cultivated and racist, fascist, and revanchist ideas are propagated, is a society in which rights are flouted.

The imperialist politicians' oaths of loyalty to human rights -- politicans who support the fascist regimes in Chile and Paraguay and arm the Israeli Zionists who commit crimes on Arab territories -- are pure hypocrisy. The state terrorism which the U.S. ruling circles have transformed into the norm of their foreign policy is guiding the hand of the mercenary cutthroats who kill women and children in Nicaragua, encouraging those who stifle democracy in South Korea, El Salvador, and Pakistan, and making the South African racists even more brazen.

At the conference in Bern, the USSR proposed that steps be taken to ensure that all states bring ther internal legislation regulating humanitarian problems into line with international standards and declared its readiness to be guided in practice by the draft elaborated by experts in respect of these questions. As is known, Washington thwarted the adoption of this document. Furthermore, the United States has also failed to ratify dozens of documents which make up the system of present-day international law obligations adopted by many states.

Yet after all this, the gentlemen from Washington would like to accuse the Soviet Union of violating human rights! Anti-Sovietism is not only blinding the U.S. ruling elite; it also presents a serious obstacle in the path of the normalization of the internatonal situation. The U.S. Administration, complying with the interests of the military-industrial complex, is thwarting the resolution of the problem of nuclear disarmament and blocking the implementation of the accords achieved at the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik.

Soviet people resolutely condemn the imperialist practice of flouting human rights. The Soviet Union believes that a considerable number of problems pertaining to the cooperation of states and peoples in the humanitarian sphere have accumulated which demand not only close attention but also a new approach and new way of thinking in line with the demands of the nuclear and space age. In the light of this, the USSR has proposed that a representative conference of participant states of the All-European Conference be convened to discuss the whole range of these questions, including contacts between people and questions relating to information, culture, and education. Moscow is prepared to host such a forum.

In putting forward this proposal, the USSR is guided by lofty humanitarian considerations. We are proposing an all-around discussion aimed at the achievement of practical results in order to establish mutual understanding which would open up the possibility to improve the situation in the humanitarian sphere in all countries which participate in the all-European process.

The year 1986, which was declared International Peace Year by the United Nations, is drawing to a close. It has been marked by the further intensification and expansion of the struggle for peace in all parts of the planet. The Soviet Union's sincere desire is to ensure a simultaneous buildup of efforts to ensure human rights worthy for all the inhabitants of the earth.

INTERVIEW WITH CSCE DELEGATION HEAD KASHLEV

AU151533 Prague PRACE in Czech 10 Dec 86 p 5

[Interview with Yuriy Kashlev, head of the Soviet delegation to the CSCE follow-up meeting in Vienna by Milan Syrucek: "The USSR and Human Rights" -- in Vienna, date not given; initial paragraph is paper's introduction]

[Text] The third follow-up meeting of the Helsinki process continues its work after the departure of the ministries of foreign affairs -- in the plenum as well as in three working groups. With brief pauses, its deliberations are to last to the end of July at least. After assessing the results achieved since Madrid, it is to concentrate on drafting the program up to the fourth follow-up meeting as determined by the Final Act of the Helsinki conference. Thus far, every follow-up meeting has reflected the complexities of the international situation in which it was held. What, then, was the start in Vienna like? How can we assess what has been said in the Hofburg Palace until now? This is the question with which we began the interview with Yuriy Kashlev, the head of the Soviet delegation.

[Kashlev] The Vienna meeting has begun in normal, nay, even in more favorable conditions than was the case with the preceding follow-up meeting in Madrid. This was reflected in the speeches of practically all 35 ministers of foreign affairs of the participating countries. A very important prerequisite for this was the fact that a joint proposal of the socialist countries was adopted to begin this meeting on the level of ministers of foreign affairs, that is, on a political level. This made it possible to immediately ascertain what the individual countries have come to Vienna with. All speakers identified themselves with the Helsinki process -- even the U.S. secretary of state was forced to do that. All speakers highly valued this process and at the same time favored its further development. In a number of the ministers' speeches ideas cropped up which the individual states will be submitting as concrete proposals in the further course of the meeting. They pertained to trade-economic relations as well as humanitarian issues. Although in the military-politicl sphere no concrete proposals have been submitted, all agreed that it is necessary to continue what has been achieved in Stockholm -- be it the measures aimed at strengthening trust or going to disarmament issues for the further stage of the Stockholm conference.

[Syrucek] Thus it is possible to say that the meeting is taking a truly normal course, without fluctuations such as those that cropped up in Madrid?

[Kashlev] Yes, with only one exception: The U.S. delegation pursues a clearly provocative line. It avoids issues of security and disarmament, but even more strenuously it concentrates on only one theme -- interference in the internal affairs of other states under the pretext of human rights. This line clearly differs from the speeches of all the other representatives, and its obvious objective is to get the Vienna meeting into a position of confrontation at its very beginning.

[Syrucek] At the same time it is remarkable that it was precisely the USSR who proposed at the Vienna meeting that a forum on human rights be convened in Moscow. What made you do that?

[Kashlev] I would like to redefine this: In Moscow, we want to hold a representative conference on an entire complex of issues of a humanitarian nature. Why? Many foreign observers have already noted that quite new approaches to humanitarian problems have cropped up in the USSR of late. When the 27th CPSU Congress elaborated an entire set of proposals pertaining to international security, it also determined -- for the first time on such a high level -- four fundamental directions of the Soviet foreign policy: military, political, economic, and humanitarian. [paragraph continues]

By doing this, we have officially put humanitarian issues on the same level with the most important problems of international politics. There are simply no longer three elephants on which foreign policy rests, but four. This is not a cyclical approach, but a profound understanding of the fact that in our times humanitarian relations among states and nations are greatly developing, and thus influencing other aspects -- military, political, and economic -- and that it is necessary to attach an equal importance to them. This is the philosophy of our approach to these issues.

[Syrucek] Has this been influenced by the internal process now underway in the USSR?

[Kashlev] It is obvious that this apprach to domestic humanitarian relations is closely interconnected with the internal process -- with democratization, deepening and expanding our citizens' social and other personal rights, openness, and with the flow of information [informovanost]. From these roots grows our attitude toward internationl humanitarian rights, human rights, contacts among people, and the like. The long-term process which the party proclaimed is quite profound. It enables us to much more actively approach these issues at internatinal forums. But, on the other hand, it also enables us to much more categorically expose those who pass themselves off as standard-bearers of human rights, but who in substance violate them most. The new openness [glasnost] constitutes a new offensive against lies in this issue too. This, too, was the reason why our leadership has decided to submit to the Vienna meeting the proposal to convene in Moscow a conference on human rights, which would solve them comprehensively.

[Syrucek] Here, in the backstage [v kuloarech], doubts have cropped up whether the USSR will not become frightened of a confrontation of views on these issues.

[Kashlev] I am saying it openly: We are not afraid and are ready for a serious talk on human rights. If there is still something we have not done in that sphere, we are getting ready to do it.

[Syrucek] Do you mean by that, for example, the recent new legal measures?

[Kashlev] Yes. For example, a new measure has been adopted on departures from the USSR and on arrivals to our country, which will go into effect on 1 January and was already published in the collection of government resolutions. It markedly expands the possibilities of Soviet citizens' leaving to go abroad for family reasons, that is, to visit close and more distant relatives, for various family events, and even, for example, pay a visit to graves. The possibilities of arrivals in our country are being equality expanded. A new instruction pertaining to contracting marriages with foreigners, also taking international obligations into consideration, is being prepared. I want to say that much work in general is being done so that our administrative measures are in harmony with international obligations. It was the USSR, after all, who proposed at a conference in Bern that all states participating in the Final Act obligate themselves to such a procedure. And, as is known, it was the United States who blocked the adoption of such a document! On this issue, too, we are putting our house in order and are striving for a democratic, open, and liberal approach to these issues; and we are not afraid of talks on that theme. Should this conference materialize, and thus far it seems that views on it are more or less positive, we will appear at it with an open heart.

[Syrucek] But the Danish delegation also submitted a similar proposal...

[Kashlev] The purpose of the Danish proposal is to create some sort of permanent body which would follow the observance of human rights in individual countries. Similar to how the Stockholm conference decided about on-site inspection in some military issues, this Danish proposal presupposes the creation of on-site inspection to check how human rights are being observed. From the consultation we held with other delegations, the feeling arises that -- first -- this proposal is not very clear and -- second -- it is fairly doubtful: Who is going to determine what places in what countries are to be visited? How would one analyze whether this or that country observes or does not observe human rights? And what actually would be studied -- some individual cases, or unemployment, or the status of the original population, for example, in the United States? It is my opinion that our idea is simpler and clearer: Experts will meet -- and not only diplomats, but, above all, experts on individual issues concerning human rights -- and will assess them and arrive at certain conclusions and proposals for cooperation. But verifying through inspection if human rights are being observed? That can be done with military maneuvers, because they concern a limited number of people in a limited space and limited time, but human rights concern every human being, all mankind. And it is not understood what should actually be checked.

[Syrucek] What is your opinion about some obvious provocations committed here by some delegations -- above all the U.S. delegation -- for example, by inviting Yuriy Orlov who recently emigrated from the USSR here to Vienna. By incessantly repeating the issue of the so-called Jewish immigration from the USSR and the like?

[Kashlev] At practically all European consultations the American delegation begins by dragging to the sponsoring country representatives of a great number of antisocialist, anti-Soviet, Zionist, and other organizations, dissidents, and the like. They assemble all these anti-Soviet moaners around the conference, and at the conference itself they make provocative statements about how people are being locked up in our country for their political views (they call them "prisoners of conscience") and remind everyone of other things (such as the case of the jazz section in Czechoslovakia) with an obvious attempt to provoke a sharp response and thus go over to confrontation. However, we will not let ourselves get carried away by that; we respond to attacks, but -- above all -- we strive for a constructive approach and submit positive proposals for mutual cooperation.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS MOOD AT VIENNA CSCE MEETING

PM121255 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by special correspondents V. Matveyev and N. Novikov: "Vienna: Soviet Initiatives Set the Pace"]

[Text] Vienna -- The first weeks of the Vienna meeting's work have received the following assessment in the influential local newspaper DIE PRESSE: "So far," it wrote, "the Soviet Union has undoubtedly set the pace of the talks... The USSR's most impressive initiative was the invitation to participate in a conference on humanitarian questions in Moscow."

The 35 countries participating in the meeting are discussing an extensive range of questions. This was also the case at the previous meetings in Belgrade and Madrid. What, then, characterizes Vienna? Now that the first weeks of the meeting are behind us, we can confidently state that the atmosphere of its sessions compares favorably with the previous forums.

The persistent efforts made by constructive diplomacy have made it possible to come to the Vienna meeting with good baggage in the form of the accords already reached (at the Stockholm conference) or the possibilities which came to light (at the Reykjavik meeting) for important new agreements on key security issues -- in the sphere of real disarmament measures on our continent.

Some of the Western participants in Vienna have even started speaking of an "excess" of opportunities in this sphere, as if there could be a concept of "excessive security!"

Of course, before conditions of lasting security and cooperation are created within the framework of the whole continent -- from the Atlantic to the Urals -- we still have to travel a long and difficult path in various spheres: political, military, economic, humanitarian. The participants in the Vienna meeting are engaged in discussing the whole package of such problems and questions. They will soon break for the New Year's recess and will then resume the debate, concentrating attention on examining the proposals and recommendations on further action in all these important spheres of virtually equal worth. For there cannot be genuine security without solving the package of problems relating to all the main spheres of modern life.

At the previous forums in Belgrade and Madrid, certain Western delegations, particularly the U.S. delegation, tried for speculative and unscrupulous purposes to ascribe to the socialist countries' delegates a "lack of attention" to the humanitarian sphere. Then, too, such fairytales were totally groundless.

This time, right from the start of the Vienna forum, it was the delegations of the United States and its close partners that had to immediately reorganize themselves and hastily formulate a common stand on the USSR delegation's proposal to convene in Moscow a representative conference on the entire package of humanitarian questions. The U.S. delegate promised to reply to that proposal "in due course..."

So, on the one hand there is a far from quick reaction and, on the other, those same representatives "scurry about" when they seek to create the impression that there is no one in the world more concerned about human rights than they are. Congressman Steny Hoyer, who also holds the office of deputy head of the U.S. delegation, has been particularly persistent in this regard. As can be seen, the fact that Congress itself just cannot ratify the UN convention on humanitarian questions adopted back in the mid-sixties does not even embarrass this delegate.

Of course, the U.S. delegation includes no representatives of American organizations that come out in defense of the Negro population's civic rights, in defense of peace, in defense of those who have lost their jobs or housing... What would they say after listening to the congressman? On the other hand, a renegade who represents no one but himself was invited to join the same U.S. delegation.

At the press conference given recently by W. Zimmerman, head of the U.S. delegation, a journalist asked whether it will be possible in the future to incorporate the provisions of the Final Act in U.S. legislation. W. Zimmerman acknowledged that the Soviet Union has already done so. But in the United States, according to him, there is the "Bill of Rights." Let us recall that this bill was adopted almost two centures ago. Life has made great strides since then. What is more, the bill's main provisions remain just good intentions.

The transatlantic champions of human-rights discourse readily on this problem but close their eyes to the most obvious facts. Unemployment in the United States? This, you see, is "the consequence of prosperity in the country of individual freedoms'! Yes, yes, that is just what Richard Schifter, the U.S. spokesman at an Ottawa conference of experts, declared on 25 May last year.

Emigration to Israel... How much fuss has been made in the West with regard to this! But then a group of former Soviet citizens who have experienced the "charms" of life in Israel appeared before journalists in Vienna. They eked out a miserable existence in the "promised land," worked 14-16 hours a day, lacked elementary living conditions, and came up against a mocking attitude toward them on the part of the Israeli authorities. They declared that many former Soviet citizens living in Israel dream of returning to the motherland.

Representatives of the major Western newspapers and television companies displayed very minimal interest in that press conference. No wonder: The facts cited there are not to the liking of those who irresponsibly speak about "freedom of information." It evidently was no coincidence that Washington rejected a proposal to hold a televized debate between Soviet and U.S. parliamentarians. A similarly negative response came from the other side of the ocean to the idea of a televised debate between the USSR foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state. Whose, then, one wonders, is the "closed society"?

Lies fear publicity. That has long been known. While posing as "judges" of other countries and peoples for the purpose of fanning an atmosphere of "psychological warfare," the authors of forgeries retire as soon as soon as the conversation turns to the humanitarian problem in its true concept and scale. The West would like to divert these problems from the mainstream into the narrow backwater of fuss over a handful of renegades and to turn the human rights question into a tool of confrontation. These gentlemen go so far as to claim that, until there are "fundamental changes" in the socialist countries, the arms race must continue. Thus the last pitiful fig leaves of the disguise to which the imaginary champions of "human rights" resort fall away.

Humanitarian issues occupy a worthy place at the Vienna meeting. But they must be discussed and resolved not in the spirit of confrontation and "psychological warfare" but in the name of progress in this important sphere. The Soviet Union is ready for this and urges Western states to support this businesslike, constructive approach.

MOSCOW DISCUSSES CIA DIRECTOR'S ILLNESS

LD172231 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Dec 86

[From the "International Diary" program; presented by Nikolay Agayants]

[Text] Reports from Washington say that William Casey, who is hospitalized, is in stable condition and spent his day very well. Viktor Levin reports:

[Levin] William Casey, the chief of the subversive and dirty operations department -- as the Central Intelligence Agency is referred to quite justly, was to give evidence on Tuesday, that is, yesterday, in the special Senate Intelligence Committee, which is examining the "Irangate" circumstances: That is how the scandal is called over secret arms sales to Iran by the United States and the handing over of the money gained from this to the Nicaraguan contras and Afghan bandits. Although I highly doubt the intention of the above Senate committee to unravel all the roots of this dirty operation and to name the culprits, the fact that Casey did not at all feel like discussing with the senators these delicate questions does not cause any doubt. After all, he could not remain silent, and the questions might have turned sharp. And so, the CIA chief found the way out. On Monday he reported sick and was urgently sent to hospital. Theoretically, he may well be doing poorly. Seventy-three years is not an infantile age and furthermore the CIA says Casey suffers from hypertension. So, I repeat — he might have been ill. But in this case I am getting the impression that the illness is of a diplomatic nature, and, having reported his ailment, he escaped the sensitive meeting of the Senate committee.

Why am I developing such an impression? Well, judge for yourselves. The CBS television company, referring to doctors, reported that Casey suffered two heart attacks. NBC, this is the second largest television company in the United States, claimed at the same time that Casey had two minor fainting fits. Several minutes later another correspondent of the same television company defined more precisely that the faintings were connected with blood vessel spasms in the brain. So, what was wrong with Casey — heart attacks or a fit? Incidentally, the very same reporter who gave the reasons for the fits noted that lately Casey — and I quote — experienced "a heavy emotional burden" in connection with the Iranian scandal and the need to give explanations to the Senate for hours on end. And this, it seems to me, is the main reason. Furthermore, today, as we have said, Casey is feeling more stable in the hospital and the doctors are even pointing to his excellent spirits. And why shouldn't he be pleased if he is inaccessible to Congress and has avoided unpleasant questions?

And during this time, other members of the Senate committee will find another victim. There is already talk in Washington that, in place of Casey, the case of Regan, the White House chief of staff, will be heard, if, of course, he is not urgently taken to the hospital as well. After all, nobody wants to answer for the secret weapons sales to Iran and the scandalous machinations associated with this.

BRIEFS

SOVIET TV IN U.S. — The Soviet State Committee on Television and Radio Broadcasting and the Orbita Technologies Corporation of New York have signed an agreement on a test show of the second channel of Soviet television in the United States. The vice president of the corporation, Viktor (Kholenko), has said in an interview that American televiewers will have a change of seeing broadcasts in full and not selected features as often was the case in the past. The test show will last for 2 weeks. [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Dec 86 LD]

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH PRC ON BORDER RIVERS

LD181010 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Beijing, 18 Dec (TASS) -- The first session of the Soviet-Chinese commission to give guidance on formulating a scheme for the comprehensive use of border sections of the rivers Argun and Amur has taken place in Beijing. This commission was set up in accordance with an agreement between the governments of the two countries.

Specific questions connected with the implementation of bilateral accords have been examined. A protocol that has been signed states that, in the interest of the development of the national economy of both countries in this region, the scheme examines options for the use of water resources of the Argun and the Amur, as well as the most important facilities to be constructed in areas that include hydropower engineering, protection against floods, irrigation, navigation, protection of water resources, and fishing. The protocol stresses that priority in these areas will be given to cooperation in the sphere of hydropower engineering, municipal water supplies, and the protection of land against flash floods.

The Soviet delegation, led by Polad Polad-Zade, USSR first deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources, was received by Qian Zhengying, PRC minister of water conservancy and electric power.

We are pleased with the work of the joint commission, Qian Zhengying said in a conversation with journalists. She noted that there are good prospects for Soviet-Chinese cooperation in the areas that have been mentioned. The implementation of the accords that have been reached, she said, will facilitate further development of cooperation between the USSR and the PRC.

RYZHKOV MESSAGE NOTES IMPROVING TIES WITH PRC

PM151151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

["Greetings Message to Visitors to the USSR Trade and Industry Exhibition in the PRC" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] I cordially greet the visitors to the USSR trade and industry exhibition in the PRC -- the biggest Soviet exhibition in China for more than 30 years.

In recent years there has been an appreciable improvement in relations between the Soviet Union and the PRC: Multifaceted ties are expanding, trade is increasing, and economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation is developing. The level of mutual contacts between the two countries' representatives is rising. The Soviet Union is ready to continue strengthening mutual trust and developing good-neighborly ties and mutually advantageous cooperation with the PRC in the interests of the two countries' peoples and of the cause of peace and socialism.

We believe that there are broad opportunities for developing bilateral relations. It was pointed out at the 27th CPSU Congress that the reserves of our cooperation are tremendous. The Soviet people perceive with respect the aim advanced by the CPC of modernizing the country and building a socialist society under conditions of peace. We are sure that the further development of Soviet-Chinese ties in various spheres and the mutual exchange of experience of socialist building will promote the implementation of our countries' creative plans.

In the summer of this year Soviet people familiarized themselves, with great interest, with the PRC trade and economic exhibition in Moscow that demonstrated your country's achievements. We hope that the USSR trade and industry exhibition in Beijing will give the Chinese people an opportunity to learn more about the Soviet Union's successes and will serve the cause of broadening bilateral ties between the two states and strengthening good-neighborliness and cooperation.

On behalf of the USSR Government I express gratitude to the PRC Government and to all Chinese organizations for assisting in organizing the exhibition.

I wish the Chinese people new successes in socialist building, peace, and prosperity.

N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

INCREASED TRADE, ECONOMIC TIES WITH PRC NOTED

OW160237 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Since the founding of the PRC, trade, economic ties, and scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and China reached their climax at the end of the 1950's, Regretfully, these gradually began to decline, and practically dropped to zero at the end of the 1960's. New developments in trading and economic relations between the Soviet Union and China started in the early 1980's. The agreements signed by both sides with regard to economic cooperation are of great significance in promoting trade between the two countries. The volume of trade between the Soviet Union and China rose by 8 times from 1981 to 1985. [passage omitted]

Meetings between the Soviet fired vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and China's vice premier were held in 1984 and 1985. As a result, a series of important agreements was signed, including the 1986-1990 barter and payments agreement. On the basis of this agreement, the volume of trade during the 5-year-plan period will reach 12 billion rubles. In 1990 alone, the volume of trade will reach 3 billion rubles. Machinery, industrial equipment, and means of transportation are major export commodities. For example, the Soviet Union supplied China with 40,000 trucks and cars in 1985. [passage omitted]

The Soviet Union also exports ferrous and nonferrous metals, lumber, and chemicals to China, while importing tungsten, raw materials, light industrial products, and food. Today, both the Soviet Union and China are tackling issues to promote socioeconomic developments. This will create a prerequisite for expanding economic and trade relations between the two countries. Here we would like to quote the remark made by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 17th CPSU Congress: Thinking of the future, one can say that the reserves for cooperation between the USSR and China are enormous. They are great because such cooperation is in the interest of both countries and because that which is most dear to our peoples -- socialism and peace -- are indivisible.

PAKISTANI NUCLEAR TESTS 'SERIOUS THREAT'

LD172321 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English 1400 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] It has been learned that Pakistan has again tested a special detonator for nuclear bombs, the third this year, and that it has attained a 93.5 percent level in enriching uranium. The Pakistani rulers' nuclear ambitions are causing the utmost concern to the peoples of the region. If they are not stopped in time, stress many political and public functionaries, then they may create a very serious threat to the cause of peace and international security.

Meantime, the Pakistani rulers are trying to hide the military nature of their nuclear program. They have frequently declared that Pakistan needs nuclear power in order to build nuclear power stations to supply energy to the country. But these statements are very far from the actual situation. An American physicist, Professor (?Heizat), noted in this respect that Pakistani leaders have long understood that a peaceful atomic program can bring the country nearer to the creation of its nuclear potential, and to hide its true aim, which is the implementation of its military program.

At the same time, observers note that it is only thanks to the connivance and favorable information of Pakistan's Western allies that it has been able to create its industrial potential for producing nuclear arms. The American paper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR admits that if it were not for the comprehensive military-economic aid given by Washington, Pakistan would never have succeeded alone to approach the creation of nuclear arms. Back in 1954, the United States sold Pakistan its first nuclear reactor, thus giving the green light to supplies of nuclear equipment and technology to Pakistan from other Western countries as well. In 1978 and 1979, France sold Pakistan about 400 tons of uranium concentrates. Many secrets for manufacturing nuclear weapons were learned by Abdul Qader Khan when he was working in Holland. Now he has become one of the heads in Pakistan's work of creating its own atom bomb. Pakistani plants to produce enriched uranium have marks on various equipment saying: made in USA, made in West Germany, in Britain, made in France, in Belgium. It is also known that Pakistan refused to sign the treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear arms and, in the light of the new facts that have become known, it is perfectly clear that Islamabad's possession of nuclear arms may well lead to most pernicious consequences for the whole region.

PAKISTAN USES CLASHES TO QUELL OPPOSITION

LD170433 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 16 Dec 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Sergey Pravdin with Boris Andrianov]

[Text] [Pravdin] Bloody clashes continue for the 3d day now in Karachi between the mutually hostile communities: the Pashtuns and Mohajirs. They are taking place despite a curfew which the authorities introduced last Sunday in almost half of the city districts where army units and subdivisions of sailors have been deployed. According to information from REUTER, during intercommunal clashes over 140 people have died, while the number of injured taken to hospitals is coming close to 600. Life in Karachi is practically at a standstill. My colleague Boris Andrianov will tell you in more detail of events in Pakistan.

[Andrianov] The president of Pakistan, Ziaul Haq, and the prime minister, Junejo, arrived last night in Karachi. The latter has, as REUTER reports, accused subversive elements of provoking the bloody rioting in the major Pakistani city. This is why he says he has had to give the troops the order to shoot without warning in order to put an end to the outbreak of ethnic internecine dispute.

This is not the first time that the leaders of the Islamabad regime have resorted to such explanations. References to ethnic discord are for them just a convenient pretext for taking reprisals against the antigovernmental movement which is gaining breadth and strength in Pakistan. It has embraced practically all the country's provinces; demonstrations, meetings, and strikes spearheaded against the antipopular regime are constantly happening there. Everywhere police and troops put down these public manifestations, using any means right up to firearms.

Last month for example, the Pakistani authorities, in order to restore so-called order in the Province of Baluchistan, bombed certain areas.

The reason for the mass disturbances is not ethnic at all, said the leader of the opposition Pakistan People's Party, Benazir Bhutto. It is a matter of the antipopular policy of the regime's rulers who are directly responsible for the difficult economic situation in the country, for intensifying domestic political tension, and for the murder of innocent people. Therefore the opposition is demanding that Ziaul Haq should resign immediately and that there should be free general national elections in Pakistan in the next 4 months. However, this development in events does not suit Washington.

Yet another confirmation of this was cited by Abdul Wali Khan, chairperson of the Awami National Party, speaking in the city of Lahore. He pointed out that there are secret documents of the U.S. National Security Council that contain a Pentagon plan to use the military bases on Pakistani territory for aggression for independent states in South Asia.

It becomes clear from these documents that the U.S. Administration considers the coming to power in Pakistan of a government elected by the people undesirable; Washington is seriously concerned that such a government would refuse to follow the course of the U.S. adventurist strategy in Asia. It is for just this reason that the transoceanic politicians are supporting the current Islamabad regime in every way, implementing a large-scale militarization of Pakistan. Suffice it to say that in the Province of Baluchistan alone, which borders on Afghanistan and Iran, 32 military airfields are now being built or reconstructed with U.S. assistance. All these military sites, like the others in other areas of Pakistan, are in the opinion of informed sources in Washington and Islamabad directly linked to the Pentagon's plans to escalate even further the U.S. presence in South Asia.

In this way Pakistan has turned into a direct accessory of the dangerous policy of the U.S. imperialists, a policy aimed at undermining the security and sovereignty of states located in that region. Broad strata of the Pakistani people are declaring for all to hear that such actions by Islamabad contradict their will and aspirations. They demand an end to the militarization of the country which has become a bridgehead for the U.S. policy of neoglobalism and a base in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. Ziaul Haq's regime answers these demands with only the policeman's baton, teargas, and lead bullets, as has been shown graphically in the recent events in Karachi.

FURTHER ON LIGACHEV VISIT TO VIETNAMESE CONGRESS

Addresses Friendship Group

PM181120 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Meetings on Vietnamese Soil"]

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Dec -- The CPSU delegation headed by Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with activists of the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Society -- one of the biggest mass public organizations in the SRV.

Welcoming the Soviet guests, Nguyen Vinh, chairman of the society's central board, stressed that the members of the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Society unanimously support the foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state, aimed at ensuring peace and eliminating the threat of nuclear catastrophe. We regard it as the society's central task, he said, to propagandize this course and publicize in every way the achievements of the fraternal Soviet people and the inspiring decisions of the 27th congress of Lenin's party.

Ye.K. Ligachev spoke at the meeting. He cordially greeted the society's activists on behalf of the CPSU delegation.

The CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] course elaborated at the congress in the light of specific Vietnamese conditions is consonant with the spirit of the decisions of the congresses held this year by the fraternal parties of other socialist countries, Ye.K. Ligachev said. It constitutes a realistic program of action for the SRV working people for the coming period and opens an important stage in your struggle for socialism.

We know how difficult the last 10 years were for your country. But we can also see that the Communist Party, having once again convincingly confirmed its role as the tried and tested vanguard of the Vietnamese people, has been able to analyze in depth and assess correctly the existing situation and outline concrete, effective measures to overcome the existing difficulties. The bold, resolute party demand to "approach the truth honestly, look the truth in the face, and speak the truth honestly" has done much to promote this. The fruitful criticism and self-criticism, high degree of exactingness toward all aspects of activity, and implacability toward shortcomings which marked both the precongress campaign and the work of the congress itself certainly strengthened the party's leading role, consolidated its ties with the people, and gave it new strength. The cause of socialism in Vietnam is in safe hands. There is no doubt that the tasks outlined by the congress will be fulfilled by the industrious Vietnamese people, who have more than once emerged with honor from severe trials.

We feel profound satisfaction about the fact that Soviet-Vietnamese relations today are a graphic example of socialist internationalism in action. The main force cementing these relations is the fraternal alliance of the CPSU and the CPV. Soviet-Vietnamese solidarity is based on the ideas of Great October and was first manifested in the assistance which was given to the Vietnamese freedom-fighters by Soviet Communists and the young Soviet Republic. The great Lenin and the outstanding revolutionary and internationalist Ho Chi Minh were present at the birth of our class fraternity.

The friendship and solidarity of our peoples were strengthened by the blood of their best sons, shed in the years of World War II, when they fought shoulder to shoulder against Hitlerite fascism. The names of a number of Vietnamese citizens who fought heroically against the German aggressors in Soviet Army units became known recently. Four of them died in the battle of Moscow -- Vuong Thuc Tinh, Ly Thuc Tat, Ly Nam Thanh, and Ly An Tao. They were posthumously awarded Orders of the Patriotic War, First class. We also pay due tribute to the courage of Soviet people, who, sparing no effort and not grudging life itself, devoutly fulfilled their international duty in Vietnam in the years of the rebuffing of American aggression.

After the victory over the aggressors, when major, difficult tasks of restoring the war-ravaged national economy faced the SRV, the Soviet Union once again came to the aid of its Vietnamese friends.

There is every reason to say that our ties have really deep, strong roots. The Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the SRV rests on these roots, and its conclusion in 1978 was the logical and natural result of the entire course of development of our two countries' relations. This treaty enshrines the political will of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Vietnam to march in indissoluble cohesion along the path of building socialism and communism and live by the laws of combat and labor fraternity, in full accordance with the principles of socialist internationalism. It confirms that the two sides regard it as their international duty to give each other assistance in strengthening and defending the socialist gains achieved at the cost of heroic efforts and selfless labor by the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples.

The ideas of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam permeate all spheres of our countries' life. Concern for preserving and augmenting this priceless asset has become the cause of the broad people's masses, as is manifested in the activity of the USSR and SRV friendship societies, which number millions of activists in their ranks.

Ye.K. Ligachev went on to stress that in accordance with the demands of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 6th CPV Congress the friendship societies of our two countries must raise the level of their work still higher, in order to continue to be effective helpers to the CPSU and the CPV in the cause of educating the working people of the USSR and the SRV in the spirit of fraternity and indissoluble unity.

The spectrum of Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation, the head of the CPSU delegation went on, is extremely broad now, and all its aspects and facets are important and necessary. But particular significance is now attached to ties in the eocnomic sphere, since it is here that the material basis for our countries' successful development is created and strengthened. The main directions of bilateral economic cooperation for the current 5-year-plan period are well known. Our two countries' economic cooperation is to double in 5 years. In this connection we note with satisfaction that the task of utilizing Soviet aid more effectively was set at the Sixth CPV Congress. It is a question of assimilating equipment and machinery at your country's plants and construction sites. There is food for thought here. Let us organize our work together. This can only benefit the common cause.

In recent years the training of skilled workers for the SRV at plants and factories in the Soviet Union has expanded. some 4,000 Vietnamese citizens have already completed training and returned home. We also not with deep satisfaction that cultural rapprochement is steadily taking place between our peoples. This is promoted by the exchange of movies, exhibitions, and creative collectives and the publishing of books by Soviet and Vietnamese authors. From 1946 through 1985, 338 titles by Vietnamese authors were published in the Soviet Union, with a total print run of 16.5 million copies.

Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and cooperation are an important factor in international life, whose significance is consistently increasing. And the situation in the world today is extremely alarming. International tension has reached the danger point, through the fault of the aggressive forces of imperialism, above all American imperialism. This is due to a whole series of illegal actions by the White House, which, after departing from Reykjavik, is trying to wreck the treaty basis for strategic nuclear arms limitation and achieve military superiority. Our position in connection with the flagrant new challenge from Washington is set forth quite clearly in the recent Soviet Government statement. We thank you, friends, for your solidarity with the foreign policy line of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

In our day V.I. Lenin's warning that successes and achievements in building the new society will reinforce imperialism's resistance retains its full relevance.

The Soviet Union, like the other fraternal countries, fully supports the peace-loving foreign policy course of the SRV, which together with Laos and Cambodia has put forward reasonable, constructive proposals aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability, as well as regulating relations with China. The implementation of these proposals would undoubtedly help improve the political climate in Asia.

It is well known that for every people, universal peace begins at their country's borders. That is why our countries attach particular significance to ensuring security in Asia, improving the political climate on the Asian continent, and seeking ways of establishing peace and stability here.

History has left Asia with many complex problems. Many countries here have been the target of colonial plundering and imperialist wars. The imperialists would like to continue to keep the Asian peoples subordinate to them and control their destiny to suit themselves. Pursuing their own political, economic, and military advantage, they will not reckon with the national interests of the region's countries, but seek to impose their own diktat.

A serious threat to the Asian countries' security emanates from the United States, which constantly builds up its military might in the region, encourages the militarization of other countries, and seeks opportunities to set Asian countries against each other. All this leads to destabilization of the situation on the continent and a dangerous growth in tension, and is the main cause of regional problems and conflicts.

There is much talk in the world today about the situation in the Asia-Pacific region. That is only natural, because the region has strategic significance. Our viewpoint on this matter is known; it was stated at the 27th CPSU Congress, and the USSR's detailed position on the Asia-Pacific region was set forth in Comrade M.S. Gorbachev's speech in Vladivostok.

The visit by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to India and the documents signed there are of extremely great significance for strengthening the cause of peace throughout the world. The Delhi declaration on the principles for a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons, adopted as a result of the visit, is a major contribution to the positive world process aimed at securing the interests of international security and cooperation. It serves the great goal of establishing the concept of peace as the highest value for all mankind.

The head of the CPSU delegation spoke of the course of restructuring in the USSR and the fulfillment of the 27th party congress decisions. In conclusion he said: We have all entered the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. [paragraph continues]

For revolutionary fighters, the builders of the new society, and all forces of peace and progress this jubilee will undoubtedly be a mighty stimulus to further boost the struggle for the triumph of the ideals of Great October.

The world socialist system is a decisive force in this struggle. The development of the fraternal socialist countries and their foreign policy aimed at general and complete disarmament are the main avenue in mankind's progress. Life has shown convincingly that the socialist community is the reliable bulwark of the cause of peace, freedom, and independence of the peoples in the struggle against the forces of imperialism and reaction. The success of the struggle for this great cause will be promoted by the further strengthening of the fraternal socialist states' unity, their all-around cooperation in building the new society, and the stepping up of their joint contribution to strengthening peace and the peoples' security.

Ye.K. Ligachev presented the high Soviet awards conferred on the Vietnamese heroes who took part in the battle of Moscow. He presented the friendship society with a souvenir gift from the CPSU delegation.

Visits Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum

LD160941 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0740 GMT 16 Dec 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; special correspondent's report from Hanoi]

[Text] Early this morning, before the start of the 2d day of the work of the sixth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Soviet party delegation, headed by Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, visited the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum, on Ba Dinh Square in Hanoi. Ligachev laid a wreath at the tomb.

Comrade Ligachev and the members of the delgation also visited the monument to Vladimir Illich Lenin, erected not far from the mausoleum, and laid a basket of flowers by its plinth.

[Video shows shot of mausoleum, then two Vietnamese soldiers carrying a wreath and goosestepping. Ligachev is seen following the soldiers, flanked by Medvedev and a Vietnamese official. There is a closeup of the wreath, and the message on the red ribbon says "From the CPSU Delegation at the Sixth CPV Congress." Then there is a closeup of Ligachev and Medvedev, and a shot of the statue of Lenin, with a basket of flowers at the plinth.]

Views Hydroelectic Complex

LD171139 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Today, the CPSU delegation to the sixth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, headed by Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee visited the town of Hoa Binh. The delegation viewed a hydroelectric complex being built by Vietnamese and Soviet construction workers. The guests spoke to the construction chiefs, workers, and engineers. A meeting of Vietnam-Soviet frienship was also held at the construction site.

Meets Laos' Kaysone Phomvihan

LD171913 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Ligachev today met with the delegation of the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos at the Sixth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, headed by Kaysone Phomvihan. Noting the successful development of Soviet-Lao relations, the sides spoke out in favor of the further deepening of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, and between the Soviet Union and the Lao People's Democratic Republic in the interests of the peoples of the two countries, and lasting peace in Asia and throughout the world. [video shows Ligachev, Kaysone Phomvihan seated in discussion]

Medvedev Addresses Workers

LD180031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 17 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Medvedev addressed the participants of a power workers meeting on behalf of our delegation. He said in part:

[Begin Medvedev recording] Dear comrade hydrobuilders, friends: On behalf of the CPSU delegation participating in the work of the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam Congress, I express to you a heartfelt gratitude for a warm welcome, and give my best wishes to your harmonious and international collective. [applause]

Comrades, our countries are not on the same level of socioeconomic development, but we have a lot in common in terms of realistic, critical approaches to matters: in the striving for a new way of thinking and acting; in finding ways and reserves for quick progress; making the socialist potential grow; securing the strengthening of its prestige and influence on the international arena; strengthening solidarity and unity of all democratic and progressive forces; struggling decisively for the preservation and consolidation of universal peace and the security of the peoples; and for curbing the forces of aggression and war. Today this is the most important, the most necessary concern, for in the nuclear epoch we are talking about the survival itself of the whole human race.

The Soviet program for creating a universal system of international security, the concrete proposals put forward in the speeches of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, including his speech in Vladivostok and during his recent visit to India, have an invaluable significance for the whole world community. Putting these ideas into operation would not only allow the human race to enter the 21st century without mass extermination weapons, but would also open up tremendous possibilities for a most rapid liquidation of poverty and cultural and economic backwardness of hundreds of millions of people in the developing countries.

Now that I am in Vietnam, which endured long and harsh years of war caused by imperialist policies, I clearly sense the craving of your people for peace. Having defended your freedom and independence, having made your sacred dream of bringing about the unity of your fatherland come true, the Vietnamese people, under the direction of their party, are creating a new life for themselves today.

Soviet people understand well what a difficult task the building of socialism is. There are many problems. But whoever at any time or place said that the building of a new society was a simple task? All of us, members of the CPSU delegation, experience feelings of deep satisfaction and support at the realistic approach of your party congress toward the assesment of the socioeconomic situation in the country, toward those problems that will need to be resolved in the forthcoming years.

The congress will undoubtedly become a major landmark, opening up a new stage in the sociopolitical and economic development of the country. Vietnamese Communists, the whole Vietnamese people, with their characteristic energy and purposefulness, by strengthening and developing their present achievements, will overcome difficulties and will honorably fulfill the tasks set forward by the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam Congress. We sincerely wish you success, dear friends. [end recording]

3 SRV LEADERS TO STEP DOWN; HEALTH CITED

LD170728 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0710 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Dec (TASS) -- Today at the morning session of the sixth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], which is continuing here, Pham Hung, member of the Politburo of the CPV Central Committee, informed the delegates that Comrades Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, and Le Duc Tho had addressed a request to the Presidium of the congress not to be candidates at the election of a new CPV Central Committee because of their states of health. The congress Presidium approved the request from Comrades Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, and Le Duc Tho, and noted their huge services to the party and state as worthy pupils and continuers of the cause of Ho Chi Minh. The congress requested Comrades Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, and Le Duc Tho to remain as advisers to the CPV Central Committee.

New CPV General Secretary

LD180851 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi December 18 TASS -- Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), has been unanimously elected the general secretary of the CPV Central Committee at the first plenary meeting of the newly-elected Central Committee of the CPV.

NICARAGUAN ASSEMBLY GRANTS HASENFUS PARDON

LD180652 Moscow TASS in English 0445 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Managua December 18 (TASS) -- On Wednesday the National Assembly of Nicaragua granted a request made by the republic's President Daniel Ortega to pardon U.S. military adviser Eugene Hasenfus who had been sentenced to thirty years imprisonment for the crime against the Sandinist revolution. Hasenfus had participated in the supply of arms and military equipment to the contras.

He was released from custody and turned over to U.S. Democratic Senator Christopher Dodd who was in Managua. On December 17 the former prisoner together with the senator left by air for the United States.

The decision to pardon Hasenfus, a statement issued by the National Assembly of Nicaragua emphasises, is illustrative of the strength of the Sandinista people's revolution and of the steady resolve of the Nicaraguan people to fight for peace.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA ON U.S. INTERVENTION, INTENT

LD180701 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Managua December 18 TASS -- The dramatic aggravation of the military and political situation in Central America testifies to the intention of the U.S. Administration to make in the near future an open attempt to intervene militarily in Nicaragua, President Daniel Ortega said at a press conference here.

The United States, he noted, is using the Honduran regime to fan explosive tension in the region. Provocative American-Honduran military exercises are being carried out in the immediate proximity of Nicaragua's state border, posing a grave threat to the independence and national sovereignty of the republic. Washington is clearly seeking a pretext for outright aggression against the Nicaraguan people under the false pretext of protecting its allies in Central America.

The Nicaraguan president said that a recent meeting of the Sandinist Assembly, the supreme consultative body of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, had noted the need to strengthen the country's defenses to protect the revolution against the aggressors' encroachments. To this end the government took the decision to carry out military exercises of a purely defensive character in western departments. The threats of the U.S. Administration to "retaliate" against Nicaragua are another attempt to prepare the ground for the escalation of aggression against the Sandinist people's revolution, the Nicaraguan leader stressed.

The United States, Daniel Ortega said furthermore, is capable of launching aerial bombardment of Nicaragua. Small wonder that the American spy Sam Hall, arrested by the Nicaraguan security forces, had carried plans of the republic's economic and military installations. All of them have long been marked on the Pentagon's maps as targets for air strikes or attacks with other weapons. Hall attempted to supplement secret intelligence which the United States obtains with spy planes.

An investigation also showed that the mercenary spy who had worked for the Reagan administration had earlier contributed to the training of contras for terrorist operations against Nicaragua, the president stressed. Daniel Ortega said that Sam Hall would be tried by the anti-Somozist people's tribunal, just like the American military adviser Hasenfus, who had been sentenced to 30 years in prison for his crimes against the Nicaraguan people.

RSFSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS PRESIDIUM MEETS

PM171355 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] At its latest session, the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium examined the question of progress in the fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures To Accelerate Economic and Social Development in Tuva ASSR" and the relevant RSFSR Council of Ministers resolution. It was noted that specific measures have been planned and are being implemented in the autonomous republic for the development of all sectors of the national economy, and that their implementation is being monitored. Growth has been achieved in output volumes, sales of industrial and agricultural output, and commissioning of fixed capital and projects for production, social, and cultural purposes.

But the work on fulfilling the resolutions, the presidium session recognized, is being done in an unsatisfactory fashion, without sufficient purposefulness and consistency. The Tuva ASSR Government is slow in restructuring its work in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress demands, and its approach toward the solution of the most important national economic questions remains unchanged. The autonomous republic's Council of Ministers does not make full use of the rights and powers vested in it to ensure the territory's comprehensive economic and social development, exercises insufficient coordination and monitoring of the activity of enterprises and organizations to enhance the efficiency of social production, and fails to show the due demandingness toward local ispolkoms as regards their organizational work and monitoring of progress in the fulfillment of party and government resolutions. As a result of this, some leaders of soviet and economic organs have taken a parasitical stance regarding the implementation of set targets.

The session criticized a number of ministries and departments at union and republican level for tolerating lack of discipline, arbitrarily extending the deadlines for project construction, failing to ensure the prompt elaboration of plan estimate documentation, and inadequately collaborating with contractual construction organizations. Inadequate sponsorship assistance is provided by Krasnoyarsk Krayispolkom and Irkutsk, Tomsk, Novosibirsk, Kemerovo, and Tula Oblispolkoms.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium analyzed the progress in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on improving the utilization of timber raw material resources and in fulfilling the republican Council of Ministers resolution on this matter. A certain amount of work is being done in the RSFSR on the fulfillment of party and government resolutions, but many shortcomings still exist in the utilization of timber raw material resources. Over the last few years, timber procurement enterprises have undersupplied the national economy by tens of millions of cubic meters of commercial lumber, and there has been inadequate development of production capacities for cardboard, wood board, and wood chips, which hampers the utilization of deciduous softwood and low-grade deal. The use of timber waste in industrial processing is extremely poor.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium ordered the ministries and departments dealing with timber procurements and wood processing to take effective measures to eliminate shortcomings and fundamentally improve the utilization of timber raw material resources and of the lumber being procured.

A targeted comprehensive program for the construction of self-contained rural dwellings [monolitnyy usadebnyy zhiloy dom] by the RSFSR State Agro-Industrial Committee in 1986-90 was also examined and approved.

GUSEV, AFONIN ATTEND TU CONGRESS IN MOSCOW

PM171617 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 Dec 86 p 2

[TASS report: "Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] Foremost workers, innovators of chemical and petrochemical production processes, and scientists have assembled in the Hall of Columns of the House of the Unions in Moscow. The Third Chemical and Petrochemical Industry Workers Trade Union Congress opened there yesterday. Its participants will hear reports by the trade union Central Committee and Auditing Commission, discuss the tasks of trade union activists under the conditions of the restructuring which has embraced labor collectives and elect the leading organs and the delegates to the 18th USSR Trade Union Congress. V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and V.G. Afonin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Chemical Industry Section, are participating in the work of the congress.

OFFICIALS SIGN OBITUARY OF CHERNIGOV OBKOM CHIEF

PM171641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Dec 86 First Edition p 6

[Obituary: "Nikolay Vasilevich Umanets"]

[Excerpts] Nikolay Vasilevich Umanets, former first secretary of the Chernigov Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom and personal pensioner of all-union status died 1 December 1986 in his 62d year after a long and serious illness. [passage omitted]

Ye. K. Ligachev, V. V. Shcherbitskiy, V.P. Nikonov, G.P. Razumovskiy, I.V. Kapitonov, N.Ye. Kruchina, I.A. Gerasimov, Yu. N. Yelchenko, Ye. V. Kachalovskiy, B.V. Kachura, A.P. Lyashko, V.P. Mironov, I.A. Mozgovoy, V.A. Sologub, A.A. Titarenko, V.S. Shevchenko, V.F. Dobrik, V.A. Ivashko, Yu. A. Kolomiyets, V.D. Kryuchkov, V.A. Masol, S.N. Mukha, Ya. P. Pogrebnyak, V.M. Kavun, L.I. Plazhchenko.

YEVTUSHENKO DEFENDS AITMATOV, NEW NOVEL

LD101414 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 10 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 10 TASS -- A heated debate has been on in the Soviet press on Chinghiz Aitmatov's latest novel "The Chopping Block" and some literary critics and public-affairs writers have scolded the author for what they said was "looking for truth to God" and " sticking up for religion."

Writing in the youth newspaper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA today, well-known Soviet poet Yevgeniy Yevtushenko took issue with their judgements of Aitmatov's book.

He said it was utterly wrong to identify the author with the hero of his novel, a former student of a theological seminary.

But the main mistake of the book's critics, Yevtushenko said, was their primitive interpretation of the freedom of religion.

"The church here is detached from the state. And this is fair. But nowhere in our law is there written that atheism is inseparable from the state," he said.

Like some other literary critics commenting on "The Chopping Block" before him, Yevtushenko asserted that reflecting on the moral nature of religion was an author's inalienable right and that there were no "off-limits" topics for writers.

Materialism, those advocating this view maintain, has evolved out of an analysis of religion, not a comic-book analysis that is but an analysis based on the knowledge of the sources. Genuflection before religion, they say, is alien to Marxism, but genuflection before itself is equally so.

The Soviet poet said it shouldn't be forgotten that along with the clergymen, who had blessed the killing of Vietnamese civilians, or those, who were today preaching the ideas of enmity and distrust between nations, there were also quite a few religious workers of a different kind, those serving peace and doing well in good faith.

On the other hand, he added, there were criminals also among atheists.

"Atheism per se is not a source of morality. The source of morality is a culture distinguished by a revolutionary attitude to reality. And this culture by no means dumps the values of the past but makes them an asset of the future."

Views Religion, Morality

PM111240 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Dec 86 p 2

["Letter to the Editorial Office" by Yevgeniy Yevtushenko as part of "Dialogue" feature: "Culture Is the Source of Morality"]

[Text] Recently it has become too easy to be regarded as an intellectual. You only have to have a university badge in your lapel to be indisputably a cultured person. If you count up the number of people with higher education, you find that our country is literally inundated with intelligentsia. But is that really so? How many people who graduate from VUZE have gone there by no means because of their love for a particular profession, but because "their parents decided," and how many are not rejected solely because of parental or other pressure and leniency in entrance and graduation examinations...The real problem is that the country is inundated with unprofessional people.

An unprofessional doctor, however mild he may be as an individual, is a potential murderer. But in a certain sense any unprofessional is a murderer. An unprofessional writer is a murderer of innocent paper, an unprofessional economist is a murderer of the people's money, an unprofessional construction worker is a murderer of construction materials, an unprofessional reshaper of nature is a murderer of rivers and lakes, and an unprofessional lecturer is a murderer of my time and yours.

However, the acquisition of narrow professional skills is not good culture, either. You can be quite a good doctor or quite a good engineer, but if your range of interests goes no higher than professional interests, you are nothing more than a technician, not an intellectual. You cannot be an outstanding doctor of genius or an outstanding engineer of genius while retaining a generally restricted approach. Only people of a high level of multifaceted cultural development can bring about real, revolutionary changes in their own work and in history in general.

Lamentable evidence of the inadequate level of cultural development is provided by the success of cheap commercial movies, second-rate songs, sentimental pseudopoetry, and cleverly concocted easy-to-read novels. True culture is taste which prevents you from swallowing dubious bait. This kind of taste cannot be inculcated artificially. True culture is a knowledge of the experience accumulated over the whole of mankind's existence. This experience is made up of history, folk wisdom, philosophy (including a knowledge of religion), science, and art. Let us be honest with each other -- would many of our qualified graduates pass examinations in these five subjects?

At the show "Dictatorship of Conscience" in the Lenin Komsomol Theater, which you would expect to be packed with the intellectual public, when an actor asked the auditorium: "Who was Andre Marti?", the audience usually responded with silence. Yet Andre Marti was written about by Hemingway, who is supposed to be one of the most widely read foreign writers in our country. What a striking discrepancy: hundreds of thousands of pictures of Hemingway in apartments today, and ignorance of his work. Try starting to quote Pushkin's "The less we love a woman...", and 90 percent of our modern intellectuals, glad of the opportunity to confirm their acquaintance with culture, will eagerly continue "... the more we please her." Yet Pushkin writes"... the more easily we can please her." The huge waiting lines for exhibitions by certain far from unquestionable artists whom the naive crowd regard as all but pioneers testify to a lack of knowledge of the primary sources -- beginning with Nesterov and Rerikh. Ignorance of the primary sources leads to highly dubious sources.

The habit of allowing your cross to hang outside your shirt or blouse, which has become the fashion, indicates an elementary failure to understand what the crucifixion is, rather than religious fanaticism. Which is more dangerous -- ignorance of religion or religious fanaticism? Perhaps these two phenomena are profoundly interconnected, but we will not try to get to the bottom of that. When on Easter night, in order to distract young people from watching the religious procession -- and there is no denying that it is more beautiful and poetical than any public meeting! -- our inventive television puts out nighttime entertainment shows, I see that only as weakness on our part. For all the numerous attempts to organize something in the palaces of weddings which is beautiful enough to outshine the religious wedding ceremony, nothing sensible has come of it yet. People sometimes get married or baptize their children in church not because of "religious fanaticism," but because it is beautiful. The churches attract many people to enter them, and not only believers, because the architecture is enchanting and the faces of the saints, painted by geniuses from among the people, are more impressive than the stony faces on boards of honor. It is really not possible to build new, modern buildings in such a way that the heart is enraptured by today's enchantment, it is really not possible to depict our contemporaries with the inspiration of a Rublev -- with the brush, or even with the camera which we so underestimate?

The source of morality is culture. But we cannot discard religion from the historical experience -- positive and negative -- or morality, since the history of religion cannot be separated from history as such. Throughts about religion, if they are not of the nature of straightforward debunking, cannot be interpreted mockingly as "flirting with the divine." Lenin's phrase is devastatingly accurate, but it was said at a specific time and aimed at specific people, and it is not appropriate to transfer it to today and aim it at our leading writers. That, unfortunately, is precisely what Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Kryvelev did in the article "Toying With the Divine." In violation of professional ethics, Kryvelev did not wait for the final publication of Aytmatov's new novel "The Scaffold," but accused the author in advance of "leaving morality at the mercy of religion." At the same time he accuses Bykov and Astafyev of the same thing. Kryvelev falls into the elementary error of identifying Aytmatov's hero with the author. Aha, so the hero is a seeker after God; that means the author is a seeker after God. [paragraph continues]

This kind of argument reeks strongly of mothball fumes of arguments which you would think had been discarded from our critical vocabulary forever. But no -- the box of the past is not yet firmly closed and locked, and the accusations which we all remember with sorrow are constantly jumping out of this junk-filled box like devils out of a snuffbox...

Why does Bykov not have the right, after noting many of religion's dark sides, to say objectively that "it also preached human values of importance to all times and peoples"? Is that not the truth? Remember, for instance, that at the time of the Roman Empire Christianity played a clearly progressive role: Not for nothing were the champions of the ideas "thou shalt not kill!" and "love thy neighbor as thyself!" torn to pieces by the imperial lions. Kryvelev is right to speak of the cruelty of the crusades or the fires of the inquisition, which distorted with bloody hypocrisy the postulates of Christianity. But was Christianity the only case of this in history? Remember the genocide in Cambodia, when Pol Pot's followers declared "Red terror" on their own people? And there is plenty more one could mention... The postulates should not be confused with distortions of them.

In our country the constitution speaks clearly and precisely of freedom of religion. In our country the church is separate from the state, and that is right. But nowhere in our laws does it say that atheism is inseparable from the state. Our socialist state is a union of Communists and nonparty people, believers and atheists. Atheism is a voluntary matter, and cannot be imposed by force. Atheism should be one manifestation of the freedoms of our society, as is religious belief, and not a manifestation of coercion. Lenin warned of this in the very first years of Soviet power, expressing concern about all cultural and historical monuments, including churches. Our state is now spending huge sums on restoring churches which "proletarian cultural [proletkultovskiy] barbarism" turned into vegetable stores and cowsheds. Although Kryvelev dissociates himself in his article from proletarian culture, he is prepared, after the manner of proletarian culture, rapidly to excommunicate from materialism those readers who think analytically about religion. But all materialism grew out of the analysis of religion, and not a caricatured analysis, but a profoundly thoughtful one based on a knowledge of the primary sources. Genuflecting to religion is alien to true Marxism, but genuflecting to itself is equally alien.

Kryvelev accuses Christian teachings of being "fixed, like something immutable and binding for all time." It looks as though the author is against dogmatism. But a few paragraphs later he defends atheism with the most tedious dogmatic rhetoric: "Our atheism is based on the foundation of a scientific philosophy, and is just as immutable as that philosophy." Engaging in polemics with dogmas of any kind is futile if it is carried out with the help of other dogmas. Let us note that the epithet "immutable" is employed accusingly in one case and in a purely laudatory sense in the other case. It is precisely to escape such tedious atheistic lectures that young people run to watch religious processions.

Kryvelev is right to find numerous contradictions in the Bible, though he is hardly breaking new ground here. That book was written and rewritten by many people at different times. But the Bible itself is by no means to blame for the fact that, as Kryvelev puts it, "for the modern Israeli soldier Biblical precepts serve as important material for the ideological justification of the extermination of Arabs." The Bible is a great cultural monument. I do not understand to this day why the state publishing house has published the Koran, but not the Bible. Without a knowledge of the Bible, our young people cannot understand a great deal of Pushkin, Gogol, Dostoyevskiy, and Tolstoy. The whole of early Mayakovskiy is strewn with Biblical metaphors. The Bible fetches huge sums of money in second-hand book stores and on the "black market." If Kryvelev wants everyone to become an atheist, how can they, without knowing the Bible? Everyone knows that forbidden fruit is sweet.

That should be the concern of a doctor of philosophical sciences, who, you would think, ought to know that there can be no thesis without antithesis. The socialist philosophy is not a self-contained philosophical system which sprang from nowhere. The socialist philosophy has absorbed all the moral quests of human thought in the name of man, including the best of Christian morality. For society to develop, it must know how to sum up and filter out, but nothing of value from the experience of thought must be discarded.

Religion at the service of social oppression has rightly been called the opium of the people. But can we forget that during the war against fascism our church collected huge sums for the common victory? Can we forget that Hewlett Johnson, dean of Canterbury Cathedral, was one of the founders of the peace movement? Can we forget that the priest Ernesto Cardenal became one of Latin America's outstanding revolutionary poets in the struggle against imperialism?

Yes, there are also the priests who blessed the planes which flew off to pour napalm on Vietnamese villages, the priests who are today apostles of the cold war. But the simplistic division of the world into believers and atheists, as if into the impure and the pure, does not stand up to any criticism on the basis of scientific materialism. Kryvelev falls into an outright proletarian culture mentality when he writes: "Not only is morality not contraindicated to it (atheism -- Ye.Ye.), it is organically inherent in it." So being an atheist gives you an indulgence against immorality? If only it were so! But unfortunately many so-called atheists are thieves who pick the people's pockets, bureaucrats, toadies, bribe-takers, pilferers, and political chameleons, and are in no way better than those priests who rob simplehearted believers.

Atheism is not in itself a source of morality. The source of morality is culture. The culture of human behavior. The culture of conscience, which has no need of scientific diplomas. The culture of the soul, even the uneducated soul, which nevertheless senses instinctively what is truth and what is lies. But if an instinctive love of truth is combined with education, such a source of morality cannot be confused by pseudotheories of any kind -- either religious fanaticism or proletarian cultural barbarism.

I do not suggest banging our heads against the church flagstones. The source of morality cannot smell only of icon incense or archive dust. The source of morality is above all life itself and people themselves, like a many-faced but single god consisting of those who fight for people's liberation from false idols. The source of morality is creativity, not slavery; labor, not idleness. The source of morality is the culture of a revolutionary attitude to reality. And that culture in no way erases the values of the past, but transforms them into the property of the future. A lack of faith in anything is worse than a false faith. But there are unfading values worthy of a faith based not on fanaticism, but on understanding of the nature of mankind's struggle for justice.

ACADEMIC TAKES ISSUE WITH YEVTUSHENKO ARTICLE

PM121215 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Dec 86 p 2

["Scientist's Opinion" by Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Suren Kaltakhchyan, honored scientist of the RSFSR, as part of "Dialogue" feature: "Not Faith, but Knowledge" -- capitalized passages within slantlines printed in capitals; capitalized passages within double slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] Ye. Yevtushenko's rejoinder article necessitates a serious discussion about ideological sloppiness, which is, unfortunately, not a rare phenomenon in our literature today.

The party has repeatedly drawn attention to this in the last few years at congresses and plenums and in special CPSU Central Committee resolutions. The Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th party congress noted in particular that "...attempts are being made in certain works of literature and art and in scientific works to present in idyllic hues reactionary-nationalist and religious survivals of the past which contradict our ideology, the socialist way of life, and the scientific world outlook."

We shall discuss the phenomenon as a whole. Our objective will be to identify and analyze the phenomenon, rather than to comment on the poet's remarks about philosophy and history, although they also help in perceiving the phenomenon better.

People sometimes attempt to justify turning to religion by saying that religion is part of culture, and culture is, they say, the source of morality. These claims are valid only under one essential condition: Provided that the terms "culture" and "morality" and religion's place within them are scientifically explained.

Life and the social system provide the basis on which a certain culture and its corresponding morality emerge. But in order to understand what kind of culture and morality, it is necessary to distinguish between culture in the narrow meaning and culture in the broad meaning of the word.

Lenin considered this to be of fundamental importance. He took the first to include /ONLY/ those creations of mankind's, which assist society's progressive development. But Lenin took the second to include absolutely everything created by people, and therefore considered that an antagonistic society "has two national cultures within each national culture": a progressive culture and a reactionary culture.

Strange attempts have been made recently to present Lenin's concept simply as a figurative expression or to limit its sphere of application: It is, so it is claimed, applicable only to political culture.

Lenin applied it to all culture, including art. One even comes across claims that, after the October Revolution, Lenin allegedly revised his concept of the "two cultures." This "discovery" is "substantiated" by attributing to Lenin an identification of the term "culture" with the term "valuable." And on this "basis" Lenin's struggle against "proletarian culture" [proletkult] is counterposed to his concept of the "two cultures." In actual fact, however, unless one resorts to truncated quotations and to a biased presentation of them, as some authors do, it is easy to see in V.I. Lenin the interconnection between the concept of "two cultures" and the struggle against "proletarian culture." Thus, while prior to the October Revolution Lenin wrote: "We take from /EVERY/ national culture /ONLY/ its democratic and its socialist elements," after October V.I. Lenin repeatedly and persistently emphasized the idea that, in order to create a socialist culture, it is necessary to take and develop //ONLY THE BEST EXAMPLES// from the culture of the past. In his speech "Tasks of the Youth Unions," warning against forgetting the class approach, V.I. Lenin said: "We must not take from the old schools the practice whereby a young person's mind was burdened by a vast quantity of knowledge, nine-tenths of it unnecessary and one-tenth distorted..." In his "Notes for a Resolution on Proletarian Culture," Lenin wrote: "Not the /INVENTION/ of a new proletarian culture, but the /DEVELOPMENT/ of the best examples, traditions, and results of /EXISTING/ culture /FROM THE VIEWPOINT/ of the Marxist world outlook..."

Lenin based his concept of the "two cultures" on the indisputable fact that "/EVERY/ nation also has a bourgeois culture (and most also have a Black Hundreds culture and a clerical culture)." Or after a socialist revolution must we also take over the bourgeois culture, in other words, the culture which serves the narrowly selfish interests of the bourgeoisie? Strange as it may seem, such views are still encountered among our literary figures today.

Some of them are seeking useful vitamins to reanimate the "single stream in culture" even among counterrevolutionary figures like K.N. Leontyev, V.V. Rozanov, N.A. Berdyayev, and VEKHI [liberal anthology published in 1909] in general, which was described by Lenin as a solid stream of reactionary slop poured over democracy. Perceiving VEKHI as an /"ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LIBERAL APOSTASY,"/ V.I. Lenin considered that a "complete, clear-cut, and open demarcation between democrats and renegades is the most useful and most necessary thing." Evidently, the champions of the "single stream" consider such a demarcation neither useful nor necessary.

People sometimes ask: As part of which culture should one classify, for example, the works of Count L.N. Tolstoy, or churches, icons, and so on. Do the champions of the "two cultures" concept not think of considering them part of democratic culture?

But why should anyone doubt that everything that is truly artistic and beautiful serves the aesthetic growth and cultural development of the people's masses? And when have Marxist-Leninists determined the democratic nature of culture by the class origins of its makers? Remember what a high opinion Engels had of Balzac for having created outstanding realistic works despite his class sympathies and political prejudices.

Let us also ponder the following: Why did V.I. Lenin consider that Tolstoy, thanks to his critical realism and enormous artistic talent, was the mirror of the Russian revolution, despite the fact that he personally belonged to the landowning class? Taking as criterion the class origins of a cultural figure instead of the objective importance of his works is not a Marxist but a vulgar sociological approach. V.I. Lenin's thesis concerning the split in culture in an antagonistic society, which was aimed against the "single stream" concept, simultaneously opposed vulgar sociology, which fails to perceive the succession of ages in the development of culture. This is why Lenin's struggle against "proletarian culture" does not contradict the "two cultures" concept but is its continuation and development.

The question "What to take over and what to discard?" remains valid even as regards the legacy of the same creator. It is necessary to separate the valuable from the harmful, as, for example, with L.N. Tolstoy himself it is necessary to separate Tolstoy the genius from Tolstoyanism.

As for attitudes toward historical monuments, history must not be forgotten here, either, still less be denigrated. Even the adversaries of the October Revolution were forced to admit that it preserved historical monuments more carefully than any bourgeois revolution. Admittedly, some valuable monuments were indeed lost in the revolutionary whirlwind for various reasons. This is to be regretted, but there are no grounds to attribute it to evil intentions. As the philosopher Spinoza said a long time ago, "Do not weep, do not laugh, but understand."

Now that nationwide attention to the preservation of monuments has increased, we must not go to the other extreme. Now, too, we must not forget the "two cultures," as some authors would have us do. Now, too, we do not need every single tiny stone. Remember that the first part of Lenin's decree on monuments spoke of the dismantling of monuments erected to honor tsars and their servants. [paragraph continues]

Of course, this concerned monuments which were of neither historical nor artistic interest. The second part of the decree concerned the creation of monuments "to commemorate the great revolution which has transformed Russia." Lenin had a very differentiated approach toward monuments of antiquity.

P.D. Malkov, first Soviet commandant of the Kremlin, recalled: "Coming out of the doorway to the Council of People's Commissars, we passed the Tsar's Belfry and drew level with the Cathedral of the Annunciation; at that point I asked Vladimir Ilich whether the icons ought to be taken away.

"'Correct,' Ilich replied, 'quite correct. They certainly should be. Not all of them, though: The ancient ones, those of artistic or historical value, must be left and the others taken away.'"

Lenin was perfectly aware that, for instance, the unique icons painted by Rublev, which are perceived by a materialistically educated person not as a religious object but as an object of philosophical and artistic perception, are one thing. And the icons produced by icon-daubers and reproduced by copyists in their thousands are something quite different. This is why references to great works by artists like A. Rublev, A. Ivanov, J. Bach, A. Duerer, and others who responded to biblical subjects and were closely involved in religious life cannot serve as proof of the merging of artistic and religious cultures.

Their works actually offer perfect proof that the prevalence of the aesthetic element in them destroyed religious structures.

The trend toward demarcating between artistic creativity and religious imagery developed over the centuries. Nowadays the brilliant portrayals in religious places, which have, incidentally, their roots in the earth, still remain as monuments of culture. A.V. Lunacharskiy's remark on this is noteworthy: "These gods are dead, therefore they are beautiful." In the atheists' view, only the human element still lives in the great works on religious subjects (including churches and monasteries). They may be familiar with religious subjects, but their symbolism remains "silent" for atheists. Believers can also, of course, directly observe and perceive beauty, but for them it is overshadowed by religious perception and fanaticism.

Any attempts to reduce religion to mythology and, on this "basis," to present religion as a component of genuine culture, are also inconsistent.

Primitive people used mythical concepts to reproduce their ties with the natural environment.

Such thinking is prescientific, but it is nevertheless rational. Mythology in the early class society expressed not only religious but also moral, philosophical, aesthetic, and sociopolitical ideas. Religion, which emerged later than mythology and art, was from the very beginning an irrational part of culture.

Religion developed as a parasite on art, like barren flowers on the living tree of knowledge, and in the class society it took shape as a reactionary world outlook. Religion did not enrich culture, but took from culture everything that it could exploit for its own consolidation. From the very beginning it exploited the artistic and figurative method used by primitive man to interpret the world. The same myth could serve as the basis of art, of an aesthetically developed consciousness, and of perverted religious conceptions. It is notorious that to this day the church exploits artistic rituals.

All that has been said so far shows quite clearly that the morality and art that have been tightly attached to religion for centuries ("religious morality," "religious art") have, in fact, nothing in common with the essence of religion. Their essence and content are determined by the specific historical forms of socioeconomic life and class struggle.

To be ignorant of these truths or to counterpose to them the bogey of "dogmatism," vulgar sociology, and proletarian culture seems, to use Ye. Yevtushenko's words, unprofessional.

And one more fundamental remark. While some authors, abundantly and "originally" quoting Lenin, try groundlessly to enlist him as an ally, others, pretending to wage a struggle against "dogmatism," either keep silent about highly conclusive (but inconvenient in the current instance) propositions by V.I. Lenin or, having paid lipservice to some proposition of Lenin's, hasten immediately to file it away in the archives. This, they say, applies to the past.

It is even worse when some theoreticians uproot themselves from scientific soil or, even more accurately, from our ideology. They ascribe a superficial (not to say flippant) attitude toward the theoretical legacy of K. Marx, F. Engels, and V.I. Lenin to a desire to explain new phenomena of social life. No attention is paid to the fact that, by no means coincidentally, the "de-Leninization" of our ideology is the main dream of the entire anticommunist camp.

V.I. Lenin warned that a superficial approach to the theoretical legacy of Marx and Engels makes it "easy to cover oneself with shame" and that "we must learn from them. We must not abandon this ground." These words must be fully applied to V.I. Lenin himself, for without his teaching there is no modern Marxism, and without modern Marxism there is no scientific understanding of mankind's social life in all its diverse manifestations. Applying with full justification Lenin's description of the objective truthfulness of Marx's teaching to Leninism itself, one can say that Lenin's teaching is an objective truth in the sense that, by following the path of Lenin's theory, "we will draw closer and closer to the objective truth (without ever exhausting it; but by following /ANY OTHER PATH/ we can reach nothing but confusion and lies.

Confusion also results when arguments are replaced by nothing but emotions. It is impossible, for example, to treat as argument the unsubstantiated claim that religion has supposedly enriched mankind with moral principles. It was proved long ago that it was not mankind that borrowed morality from religion but, on the contrary, it was religion that borrowed and exploited for its own purposes certain tenets of human morality.

Marxism-Leninism comprises genuinely scientific, progressive political, legal, artistic, moral, and philosophical views, and excludes religious ones. The history of religion is studied in our country in the context of the struggle waged against it by atheism. Is it not rather too harsh to consider knowledge of religion, the Bible, and so on as a sign of genuine culture in general, or to excommunicate from culture those who would say "the more we please her" rather than repeat Pushkin's line: "The more easily we can please her"?! What should one say then of those who are at odds with the elementary truths of Marxism-Leninism and whose world outlook is confused?!

It is not for nothing that that party tells us to improve atheist education, especially among young people, and to seek new approaches and new ways and forms of atheist propaganda. The attempts to retard progress in this direction are amazing. It seems that there is no point in attempting, for example, to "distract young people from watching the religious procession" on Easter night. [paragraph continues]

Why is it that the poet is disturbed not by the fact that some young people wear a cross, but by the fact that they wear a cross while being ignorant of "the meaning of crucifixion." Instead of giving some thought on how to make Soviet rituals attractive, Ye. Yevtushenko extols the beauty and sublimity of church rituals, which supposedly have no connection with religiousity.

Religion still has not departed from our social life. The "flirting with the divine" by some very respected and esteemed cultural figures has, unfortunately, still not disappeared. So what is so "dogmatic" about the fact that Leninist formulas elaborated precisely for these phenomena are applied to recurring phenomena?

Lenin's struggle against "proletarian culture" in no way meant a slackening, still less a cessation, of the struggle against the incursion of religious culture into socialist culture (which is proletarian in its objectives and ideals), and therefore against God-seeking and God-building [bogostroitelstvo; reference to religious-philosophical trends among early 20th century liberal intelligentsia and Marxist literary figures in Russia].

When it came to prinicpled struggle Lenin did not make any allowances for anyone whatsoever. On the contrary, he paid particular attention to correcting mistakes by those who had the greatest influence on the masses. He uncompromisingly criticized his friends like, for example, A.V. Lunacharskiy and A.M. Gorkiy for their confused world outlook and their enthusiasm for God-building. It is well known that this criticism was only beneficial to them (and to the cause of socialism) and did not in the least damage their friendship with Lenin.

The desire to shield from criticism contemporary writers, particularly the leading ones, that is, those who have sufficient influence on the mass of readers, has nothing to do either with concern for the ideological and creative growth of the writers themselves, or with the education of the mass of readers along the right lines.

The Political Report by the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th party congress said: "It is time for literary and artistic criticism to shake off the complacency and sycophancy which corrode healthy morality, bearing in mind that criticism is a public matter rather than a sphere for serving authors' self-esteem and ambitions." This proposition needs not only to be quoted but also to be really implemented!

In the struggle for clear-cut philosophical stances the party expects to rely on creative unions, public opinion, and literary and artistic criticism. This support cannot be provided by simply quoting party documents.

Ye. Yevtushenko writes: "Thoughts about religion, if they are not of the nature of straightforward debunking, cannot be interpreted mockingly as 'flirting with the devine.'" This is altogether beyond dispute. But the truth is specific, and mockery inappropriate here, because Lenin's formula carries an important ideological charge. In this case, the thoughts of the hero in the novel which Ye. Yevtushenko has in mind give the millions of readers not a "paradoxical perception" but entirely specific impressions. Readers perceive writing as it is.

Criticism without rigorous reasoning can serve no useful purpose. The author of the article "Culture Is the Source of Morality" seems to argue some of his ideas, but in a rather naive fashion. In order to prove, for example, that humanism is not automatically inherent in atheism, he refers to the fact that bearers of the most negative phenomena can be encountered among atheists, while believers did and do include genuine patriots. But what has this to do with the essence of atheism or Christianity?

The article contains a number of correct remarks as regards the fact that education and culture do not coincide or that "the country is inundated with unprofessional people...." But even here, for some reason or other, education (and higher education in particular) is counterposed to culture. Priority is given to instinctive love of truth and, in order to boost culture, a proposal is made to publish the Bible and so on. It is true that the Bible is a monument of the culture of the past. It is, incidentally, published in quite large print runs by the Moscow Patriarchate and the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians and Baptists. There are also quite a few old editions. In 1973 the book "Poetry and Prose of the Ancient East" [Poeziya i Proza Drevnego Vostoka] (in a print run of 330,000 copies) included Chapters 6 and 8 of Genesis, the Books of Jonah, Ruth, and Job, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Songs from the Bible. This publication was designed precisely to familiarize people with the aforementioned sections of the Bible as monuments of culture. At the same time, it is certainly worth bearing in mind that church organizations use the Bible as a whole not to enhance people's culture but to firmly establish religion in their minds.

Ye. Yevtushenko writes: "I do not suggest banging our heads against the church flagstones. The source of morality cannot smell only of icon incense or archive dust." Well, thanks for small mercies, so to speak, but that /ONLY/ is highly indicative. It means that icon incense is also a source of morality (?!). This could be seen as a slip of the pen, had the author not gone on to explanations concerning the "single God" in the spirit of deification of human potential, for which Lenin criticized A.V. Lunacharskiy and A.M. Gorkiy.

The party has repeatedly noted instances of a lack of ideological commitment or lack of philosophical discrimination in a number of artistic and scientific works. It has been pointed out that philosophical omnivorousness hinders ideological education work and is capable of damaging creativity of even talented people. Finally, we have to note the fact that our literature and art, which have made an invaluable contribution to the atheist education of working people, have slackened their concern for the problems of atheism in the last few years. And what is even worse, in some works of art in literature, the movies, and painting one can observe admiration of church rituals and a relish for the "delights" of the lives of the saints and elders, church life, and religious morality.

Our young generation is entitled to expect cultural figures to make a fitting contribution to the improvement of atheist education, the development and broad dissemination of new Soviet rituals and customs, and the strengthening of communist morality, which is alien to the hypocrisy and sanctimoniousness typical of religious morality.

DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED ON THEATER REFORM

PM111119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 3

[Interview with Valeriy Fokin, chief director of the Moscow M.N. Yermolova Theater and secretary of the RSFSR Union of Theater Workers Board, by V. Buryakov: "The Theater: Time of Change" -- first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction; date and place of interview not specified]

[Excerpts] Our theater is today experiencing a period of sober self-appraisal, hopes, and desire for renewal. The 15th All-Russian Theatrical Society Congress, which was also the first RSFSR Union of Theater Workers Congress, was held recently. The USSR Union of Theatrical Societies Congress lies ahead. Many controversial issues concerning the state and restructuring of theatrical work are on its agenda. [paragraph continues]

Our correspondent V. Buryakov talked with Valeriy Fokin, chief director of the Moscow M.N. Yermolova Theater and secretary of the RSFSR Union of Theater Workers Board, about the significance of the recent congress and the role to be played by the forthcoming one, as well as about the prospects and problems of our theater's further development.

[Buryakov] Valeriy Vladimirovich, what, in your opinion, must be the main aspect of the union's work?

[Fokin] Concern for a constant atmosphere of creativity and openness. The recent congress was perhaps the first such representative gathering of theater workers I can remember that was really creative and constructive. The delegates discussed creative, economic, social, consumer service, and organizational problems and the complex situation of the country's provincial theaters. There was honest, open, principled criticism of the shortcomings which prevent urgent transformations in cultural life. A new spirit could be felt in literally everything at the congress. And the result is that a new creative union, the Union of Theater Workers, ahs been formed in the RSFSR.

The very first serious speeches from the delegates broke the traditional mood of complacency and the usual "peaceful," fruitless course of the sessions. True, some people would prefer not to see any changes. But what is important is that those who think in stereotypes failed to find support among the majority of delegates: In the final analysis the congress highlighted the vital need to radically change the state of affairs in our theater and decisively sweep aside everything routine.

[Buryakov] What is the fundamental difference between the new union and the All-Russian Theatrical Society?

[Fokin] The creative union has a different status and different, more substantial rights: legal, social, and creative. People in the theater believe that the union will serve as a real mouthpiece for their interests and act as their helper and protector, and also that it will have a really active influence on the creative process and bear the main responsibility for the ideological and artistic value of new plays and performances. We already have an example of this kind of approach to the work of a creative union — the association of our cinema worker colleagues.

The main thing is to ensure that it is not simply a change of name. Both the functions and tasks of the Union of Theater Workers must be radically different. The establishment of genuine artistic independence for theaters and the possibility of living without petty tutelage, "paper" administration, and incompetent directives and solving their problems themselves — this is what the creative union will fight for. The union board has been elected not to hold meetings but to be of real, perceptible benefit in the questions of radically restructuring the theater. And in this the Ministry of Culture and our union must always be in agreement. [passage omitted]

[Buryakov] And what are the plans and prospects of the Yermolova Theater?

[Fokin] We are striving to ensure that our theater develops as a theater with greater "social sensitivity." Hence our constant interest in contemporary drama. This could possibly be a risk in terms of repertoire, but we are going into it with our eyes open. The shows "Speak...," "The Last Visitor," and "The Games of 1981" have aroused interest among the public.

We are to stage what we consider serious plays by contemporary playwrights — for example, "The Robespierre Embankment," by A. Buravskiy, "The Strange Woman" by N. Sadur, "Family Lunch at 1.30" by V. Pavlov, and "I Drove Home..." by Yu. Volkov.

[Buryakov] What are your hopes concerning the impending All-Union Union of Theatrical Societies Congress?

[Fokin] I hope that all the positive changes made at the All-Russian Congress will be consolidated and developed. But what worries me is that the new creative union's draft statutes are, in my opinion, an example of conventional, formal thinking that is out of touch with the real theatrical process and its problems. The draft has not been discussed in theatrical collectives. You would think it impermissible today to forget the principles formulated by the 27th CPSU Congress, which urged creative unions to actively manage the artistic process and to establish self-management. But the draft statutes create the impression that the reform of the theater is being carried out not by members of the theater themselves but by someone else on our behalf, instead of us. This must not happen, this cannot happen today.

KIEV COMMEMORATES HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 10 DEC

AU161326 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Dec 86 p 3

[RATAU report: "In Defense of Human Rights"]

[Excerpts] The socioeconomic policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state is based on solicitude for the welfare of man, for the fullest satisfaction of his material and cultural needs, and for securing his rights and freedoms. This was noted at a meeting of public representatives held in Kiev on 10 December to mark Human Rights Day and the 20th anniversary of the international agreements on human rights.

Academician P.G. Kostyuk, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman, opened the meeting.

A.M. Kovalevskiy, Ukrainian Trade Union Council secretary, delivered a report. He said, that 37 years ago the UN General Assembly adopted the General Declaration on Human Rights. In international relations, this document was the first to proclaim everyone's right to life, personal inviolability, equality before the law, participation in state administration, right to work, rest, dwelling, education, medical service, and social security. The day the declaration was adopted was proclaimed Human Rights Day.

Important theses of the declaration, the speaker noted, were built into the foundations of the international accord on civil and political rights, and the international agreement on economic, social, and cultural rights which, adopted on the USSR's initiative in 1966, have fixed the rights of peoples to self-determination and to a free choice in the way of development, and have concretely defined obligations for the states participating in the agreements. Their elaboration and, subsequently, that of many other legal acts was initiated by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, including the Ukrainian SSR. They were among the first to sign and to ratify the international conventions and accords in defense of human rights.

However, it was emphasized at the meeting, not all UN member-states have joined them. This applies primarily to the United States and, in a number of cases, also to its allies. [passage omitted]

In a unanimous resolution, the meeting participants expressed their warm support for the new Soviet initiatives aimed at guaranteeing a lasting peace, and declared their solidarity with all people who fight for their rights in capitalist countries, for peace, democracy, and social progress.

TRUD EXPOSES CORRUPTION IN BOLSHOY THEATER

PM171629 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 December 1986 carries on page 2 under the rubric "The Law Is Binding on Everyone" and the headline "Backstage Affair" a 2,000-word by article G. Tsitrinyak exposing corrupt practices in Moscow's Bolshoy Theater. A. Leonov, the orchestra's double bassist, was reportedly dismissed in 1983 on grounds of "unprofessionalism." However, it turns out that his dismissal was engineered by G.N. Panyushkin, the orchestra manager, in revenge for being accused by Leonov of extorting foreign currency from orchestra members during foreign tours. Unlike others, who apparently feared for their jobs, Leonov refused to keep quiet about this extortion, which continued after he was dismissed, but his appeal against dismissal was opposed by S. Lushin, the theater's general director, by the trade union committee, and by G. Ivanov, USSR Deputy Minister of Culture.

The writer of the article asks: "Do deputy ministers often intervene personally in the resolution of a specific court case? The most experienced lawyers could not recall such an instance." Contrary to information supplied to the ministry by the Moscow Administration for Combating Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation -- that Panyushkin and others were continuing to extort currency from musicians -- Ivanov apparently claimed that the practice had completely stopped. Tsitrinyak emphasizes that extortion took place "openly, without concealment, without fear of being censured or stopped." And he continues: "Confidence of impunity was obviously inspired by certain patrons at the Ministry of Culture. It was not for nothing that they supported Leonov's dismissal so readily." The article concludes by noting that, although reinstated, Leonov has now been dismissed again for "loss of the necessary professional qualities." A letter is quoted in which Deputy Culture Minister Ivanov writes that "the USSR Ministry of Culture sees no reason to revise that decision."

SOCIETY FOR LINKS WITH EXPATRIATES ISSUES APPEAL

PM171517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Summing Up"]

[Text] The Third All-Union Conference of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Expatriates was held in Moscow on 10 December.

The participants in the conference approved the address "To Expatriates," which states that their mother country remembers with gratitude all those who show it genuine love and respect and try to maintain constant ties and contacts with it. The address contains an appeal to step up joint actions in the struggle for peace, against the threat of nuclear war, and for complete and general disarmament.

There were elections to the society's council and presidium. A.P. Shitikov was reelected chairman of the "Rodina" society presidium.

EARTHQUAKE REGISTERED IN MOLDAVIA 17 DEC

LD171138 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Kishinev December 17 TASS -- At 1:34 a.m. Moscow time today, the seismic stations of the Academy of Sciences of Moldavia registered an earthquake. Its epicentre was on the territory of Romania. The force of tremors in Kishinev, the capital of Moldavia, was 3-4 points, in the Republic's southern areas -- up to 5 points on the 12 point scale. There have been no destructions.

CSA ISSUES JAN-NOV INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

PM171431 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 51, Dec 86 (Signed to Press 11 Dec 86) p 8

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "USSR Industry in the First 11 Months of 1986" — capitalized passages within slantlines printed in capitals]

[Text] The EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA editorial office has received from the USSR Central Statistical Administration the following figures for the results of industry's work in January-November 1986.

The total volume of industrial output increased by 4.9 percent in comparison with the corresponding period of last year.

Labor productivity increased by 4.6 percent in this period.

The output sales plan was fulfilled by all industrial ministries and union republics.

The targets set for the production of the majority of most important types of articles were exceeded.

Figures for the fulfillment of the industrial output sales plan, the rate of production growth, and the rate of labor productivity growth for complexes and ministries are cited below:

Complexes and All-Union and Union-republic Ministries and Departments	Jan-Nov 1986 as Percentage of Jan-Nov 1985		Percentage Fulfillment of Jan-Nov Output
	Production Volume	Labor Productivity	Sales Plan
/FUEL AND ENERGY COMPLEX/	104	103	101
Power and Electrification	104	103	100.7
Petroleum Industry	103	99	100.5
Gas Industry	108	107	103
Coal Industry	104	103	103
/METALLURGICAL COMPLEX/	104	104	102
Ferrous Metallurgy	105	105	102
Nonferrous Metallurgy	103	103	101
/MACHINE BUILDING COMPLEX/	106	107	101
Power Machine Building	107	107	102
Heavy and Transport Machine Building	105	105	101

Electrical Equipment Industry	106	108	100.8
Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building	106	106	102
Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry	108	108	100.3
Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems	109	108	102
Automotive Industry	105	106	102
Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building	107	106	102
Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production	105	106	101
Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building	106	106	102
Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances	106	107	100
/CHEMICAL AND TIMBER INDUSTRY COMPLEX/	106	106	101
Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry	103	103	100.8
Chemical Industry	108	108	101
Production of Mineral Fertilizers	108	107	101
Medical and Microbiological Industry	110	109	101
Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry	106	106	101
/AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX/	104	105	103
State Agro-Industrial Committee	105	105	103
Fish Industry	105	106	104
Grain Products	102	102	103
Light Industry	102	104	100.4
Construction Materials Industry	104	105	101

The indicators for production growth rates and for the fulfillment of plans for output sales for /THE UNION REPUBLICS/ (including industry under all-union jurisdiction) are as follows:

Union Republics	Jan-Nov 1986 as Percentage of Jan-Nov 1985 in Terms of Production Volume	Percentage Fulfillment of Jan-Nov Output Sales Plan
RSFSR	104.8	101
Ukrainian SSR	104.4	102
Belorussian SSR	107.0	102
Uzbek SSR	106.3	102
Kazakh SSR	105.8	102

Georgian SSR	104.2	101
Azerbaijan SSR	104.7	101
Lithuanian SSR	104.7	102
Moldavian SSR	105.4	102
Latvian SSR	103.9	102
Kirghiz SSR	104.8	102
Tajik SSR	102.1	102
Armenian SSR	105.1	102
Turkmen SSR	106.0	102
Estonian SSR	103.5	102

Production of /THE MOST IMPORTANT TYPES OF OUTPUT/ for the country as a whole was as follows:

Types of Output	Output Produced: In Nov 1986	Output Produced: In Jan-Nov 1986	Jan-Nov 1986 as Percentage of Jan-Nov 1985
/FUEL AND ENERGY COMPLEX/			
Electricity, billion kilowatt-hours	104	1,443	104
Oil (including gas condensate), million metric tons	51.3	562	103
Gas, billion cubic meters	59.2	624	107
Coal, million metric tons	60.8	685	103
/METALLURGICAL COMPLEX/			
Steel, million metric tons	13.2	147	104
Rolled ferrous metal products (finished), million metric tons	9.2	103	104
Steel pipes, million metric tons	1.6	18.1	103
Iron ore, million metric tons	20.3	229	101
/MACHINE BUILDING COMPLEX/			
AC electric motors, million kilowatts	4.0	50.8	102
Metal-cutting machine tools billion rubles	0.2	2.6	109
of which, with digital program control	0.1	1.2	123
Forging and pressing machines, million rubles	51.4	632	104
Industrial robots, thousands	1.0	13.4	116
Instruments, automation equipment, and spare parts, billion rubles	0.4	4.3	104
Computer equipment and spare parts, billion rubles	0.4	4.3	113
Petroleum apparatus, million rubles	16.9	227	108
Chemical equipment and spare parts, million rubles	73.9	889	103
Industrial equipment and spare parts for the light and food industry, billion rubles	0.1	1.7	104

Tractors, million horsepower	4.2	49.8	103
Agricultural machines, billion rubles	0.3	3.6	108
Grain harvesting combines, thousands	7.4	103	100.6
Machines and equipment for livestock raising and feed production, billion rubles	0.2	2.6	104
Excavators, thousands	3.2	39.0	100.1
/CHEMICAL AND TIMBER INDUSTRY COMPLEX/			
Mineral fertilizers (in 100-percent nutrient equivalent), metric tons	3.0	31.7	105
Chemical plant protection agents (in 100-percent active ingredients), thousand metric tons	27.4	305	96
Sulfuric acid, million metric tons	2.5	25.3	107
Caustic soda, million metric tons	0.3	2.9	106
Chemical fibers and yarns, million metric tons	0.1	1.4	106
Synthetic resins and plastics, million metric tons	0.5	4.9	107
Tires for cars and trucks, buses agricultural machines, motorcycles and motor scooters, millions	5.1	60.4	102
Commercial lumber (excluding small timber procurements) million trimmed cubic meters	19.3	248	108
Paper, million metric tons	0.5	5.6	103
of which, newsprint, billion square meters	2.9	31.6	104
Cement, million metric tons	11.3	124	104
Precast ferroconcrete, (excluding output from subsidiary enterprises) million cubic meters	8.7	104	105
/CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION/			
Textiles, all types, billion square meters	1.0	11.2	102
Knitted underwear and outerwear, billion items	0.1	1.6	102
Footwear, million pairs	61.9	723	102
Clocks and watches, millions	5.4	63.8	104
Chinaware and earthenware, million rubles	73.8	859	102
Radio receivers, millions	0.7	8.2	103
Television sets, millions	0.7	8.6	101
of which, color sets	0.3	4.0	109

Refrigerators and freezers, millions	0.5	5.4	101
of which, refrigerators with a capacity of 200 liters or more	0.3	3.4	113
Washing machines, millions	0.4	4.9	106
Automobiles, millions	0.1	1.2	99.7
Motorcycles and motor scooters	0.1	1.0	98
Furniture, billion rubles	0.6	7.6	105
/AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX/			
Meat (from state raw material Resources), million metric tons	0.8	9.7	107
Sausage products, million metric tons	0.3	3.2	104
Edible fish products, including canned fish, million metric tons	0.4	5.2	101
Butter (from state raw material resources), million metric tons	0.07	1.5	106
Wholemilk products in milk equivalent (from state raw material resources) million metric tons	2.4	28.1	105
Margarine products (from state raw material resources), million metric tons	0.1	1.3	103
Mineral waters, million dekaliters	11	133	113
Fruit Juices, billion standard cans	0.3	3.1	147
Nonalcoholic beverages, million dekaliters	19	370	135

Commentary on the Summary [subhead]

As the USSR CSA shows, the growth in the total volume of industrial output in January-November was 4.9 percent against the annual plan figure of 4.3 percent. Labor productivity in industry increased by 4.6 percent during this period (a 4.1 percent growth was envisaged by the annual plan). Higher productivity accounted for 95 percent of the output growth.

The output sales plan, taking delivery pledges into account, was fulfilled by 98.8 percent in industry as a whole (98.2 percent in January-November last year). The volume of output delivery shortfalls against concluded contracts was reduced in comparison with the corresponding period in 1985.

At the same time, the standards of contractual discipline remain poor in a number of ministries. The greatest lagging has been allowed to build up in associations and enterprises under the USSR Ministry for the Production of Mineral Fertilizers, the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, and the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry. Contractual discipline deteriorated in machine building complex ministries during November. More than one-half of enterprises in the complex failed to fulfill their pledges to consumers according to the results of the first 11 months, including 79 percent of enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, 70 percent of enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Power Machine Building, and 65 percent of enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry.

The fuel and energy complex sectors ensured a 3.7 percent output growth, which is higher than envisaged by the annual plan.

The gas industry is developing at faster pace than planned, and above-plan extraction since the start of the year amounts to more than 13 billion cubic meters of gas.

The coal industry works steadily. Miners have extracted 16.2 million metric tons of coal in excess of plan, which includes 9.7 million metric tons of the particularly valuable coking coal.

The state of affairs in the petroleum industry is improving. For the 3d month running, the petroleum industry workers have exceeded the planned petroleum extraction levels. But the lag which developed earlier in the year still has not been eliminated and shortfalls amount to a significant quantity.

The metallurgy complex sectors produced 2.4 million metric tons of cast iron, 2 million metric tons of steel, and 0.8 million metric tons of finished rolled ferrous metal products in excess of the 11 months plan. At the same time, metallurgical workers fail to give the due attention to the development of the production of highly efficient types of metal products. Just as in the past, the fulfillment of targets regarding the output of cast billets from continuous casting machines, electric steel, high-strength drilling pipes, and some other types of advanced products is not ensured.

Output growth rate in the machine-building complex exceeded the planned level set for the year as a whole and reached 6.1 percent in the first 11 months of 1986.

At the same time, growth rates in November fell significantly, and the volume of output produced was even less than in November of last year in the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, and the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances.

Machine-building industry workers allowed significant lagging to build up in meeting the 11-month targets for the output of advanced highly efficient equipment, and in particular diesel generators for dump trucks with 75-180 metric ton capacity (USSR Ministry of Power Machine Building), two-section diesel freight locomotives with a power of 8,000 [unit not specified] and driven by the D-49 diesel engine (USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building), electric motors of the new AI standard series (USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry), and new generation economical centrifugal equipment Industry), and new generation economical entrifugal pumps (USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building).

The machine building complex sectors failed to ensure the evenness of output production. Just as before, a significant proportion of the monthly program is produced in the last few days of the month. Output in the last 5 working days in November accounted for more than one-half of the planned quantity of spinning machines (USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances), excavators (USSR Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building), and transport [transportnyy] plows (USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building), and more than 70 percent of forging and pressing machines (USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry). This state of affairs cannot but have an adverse effect on the quality of output produced.

As of January 1987, all industry will work under the new conditions of economic management, associations and enterprises under several ministries will be transferred to complete financial autonomy, self-financing, and self-capitalization, and state acceptance of output will be introduced.

The introduction of these measures determines the need for an in-depth analysis of the results of work in the period under review, elimination of shortcomings, and mobilization of reserves in order to create prerequisites for the further qualitative transformation of the country's productive forces and the acceleration of the pace of economic and social development.

COSMOS-1808 SATELLITE LAUNCHED 17 DEC

LD180858 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 18 TASS -- On Wednesday the Soviet Union launched another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1808, to continue its space research programme. It was put into orbit with the following parameters:

-- Initial period of revolution -- 105 minutes

-- Maximum distance from the earth surface (apogee) -- 1,033 km

-- Minimum distance from the earth surface (perigee) -- 995 km

-- Inclination of the orbit -- 83 degrees.

The equipment carried by the satellite is operating normally.

TAJIKISTAN TIES INTO 'ORBITA' TV NETWORK

PM171643 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Dec 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Television 'Orbitas' in the High-Altitude Region"]

[Text] Ura-Tyube (Leninabad Oblast), 4 Dec -- Color television screens lit up for the first time today in the houses of the inhabitants of the Kulikutan high-altitude settlement located in the foothills of the Turkestanskiy mountain range.

Stable reception of Central Television broadcasts is ensured by a powerful "Orbita" system relay station installed by specialists of the oblast radio communications administration. All population centers in Ura-Tyubinskiy Rayon are now provided with stable television reception.

In Tajikistan, where 93 percent of the territory is covered by mountains, the development of radio relay and satellite communication channels and "Orbita," "Moskva," and "Ekran" system television stations is of particular importance. In order to install them in inaccessible places, communication workers are assisted by helicopters and cross-country vehicles which deliver the necessary materials and equipment. Hundreds of kilometers of radio relay lines and dozens of satellite communication stations have been built on the republic's territory.